

HOME NEWS

17% wage settlement gives foretaste of voluntary pay policy

By Raymond Pernell

Labour Staff
A pay agreement that provides for increases in basic rates of 17 per cent and other big improvements in shift and overtime allowances yesterday gave one of the first indications of what employers and unions will expect from a voluntary pay policy.

The draft settlement, covering 56,000 manual workers in Imperial Chemical Industries, was reached after talks that went on into the early hours of yesterday morning. It is in two parts: one within the Phase Three pay limits and payable from June 10, and the rest payable as soon as the negotiations are completed.

A document signed by ICI and the unions is to be sent to union officials and management. It says: "The unions and the company have considered they should reach an agreement of the kind appropriate to the voluntary approach to incomes policy envisaged in the immediate future, rather than one specific to the various headings under current Phase Three legislation."

The full agreement would give increases of 17 per cent on salary scales, the working conditions payment scale and call-out payments, and 20 per cent improvements in shift allowances and day-rota allowances. The payments to be made from June 10 follow the Phase Three guidelines and give rises of 7 per cent or £2.25 a week. A threshold agreement, which is likely to give extra rises of 80p or £1.20 a week from the start of the new pay scales, is included.

Police from outside area aiding northern inquiry

From Christopher Walker

Newcastle upon Tyne

The scope of the inquiry by detectives in the North-east widened yesterday when a senior officer from an outside force was drafted in to investigate allegations made this week about two members of Durham county police.

Documents, first disclosed in *The Times* and now in the hands of the police, show that in 1972 the two officers were allegedly supplied with new bungalows each costing nearly £4,000 less than an identical bungalow on the same plot sold to a member of the public.

Part of the inquiry is being conducted jointly by the Durham county police and the Northumbria force, and centres on activities in Chester-le-Street and Blyth. Papers referring to the case are expected to be handed to the Director of Public Prosecutions in the near future.

The inquiry first began as an offshoot of investigations into

Mr David Warburton, negotiator for the General and Municipal Workers' Union, estimated that the full settlement would increase average earnings for a 40-hour week by between £5 and £6.50, making about £39.50 for a worker on the middle salary grade.

"I hope this agreement will encompass other employers to look beyond Phase Three. There is nothing to stop them doing so and it would help future industrial relations," he said.

The agreement would have to be considered in detail by individual unions before being ratified.

Nalgo claim: Local councils are likely to be told today that unless they agree to begin negotiating on a pay claim for rises of between 20 and 26 per cent they face the threat of industrial action by white-collar staff throughout the country.

The local government and national executive committees of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) are holding emergency meetings to consider their response to the employers' refusal to begin talks.

The union has been drawing up a list of "target areas" where industrial action would be most effective. Strike action would require a ballot of members, but plans have also been made to use overtime bans and working to rule.

The executive is likely to endorse a proposal today to warn the employers that industrial action will begin if talks do not start soon.

Mr Heath wings the June poll kite

By Our Political Editor

Now that he has made himself a hostage to fortune by letting slip the chance of a June election to increase his majority, Mr Wilson has had to find a way to keep Mr Heath and the Conservatives under curb. His reason is to put it about that he is keeping his options open for a date in July or August.

In the Commons yesterday Mr Short, Leader of the House, confirmed a report in the *Daily Mirror* that the Prime Minister had asked officials to look at the question of holding a general election on variable dates in the United Kingdom to avoid local "wakes weeks", and to study precedents.

Nobody at Westminster takes the hint seriously. Mr Heath said yesterday that it would be necessary to pass legislation through both Houses before variable election dates could be introduced, and that no such Bill would carry. He also objected that such a scheme would allow one area of the United Kingdom to be influenced by voting elsewhere.

Erskine May's Parliamentary "service", basing itself on the Representation of the People Act, firmly declares that "at a general election all polls must be held on one day, namely the ninth day after the last day for delivery of nomination papers".

Mr Wilson flew the kite on the day Mr Heath was to leave for a visit to Peking, and probably it was meant to unnerve him. But Westminster has always calculated that Mr Wilson had to choose June 13 for a general election to avoid wakes weeks and the loss of Labour votes, or hold his hand until the autumn. In fact, Parliament disperses today for the Whitsun recess until June 10, and a June election is impossible.

The power stations, according to Mr Hugo Patterson, the electricity service information officer, are facing an imminent total blackout because of a shortage of hydrogen gas, propane gas and caustic and sulphuric acid. The British Oxygen Company in

the business dealings of Mr John Poulsen, Mr T. Dan Smith and Mr Andrew Cunningham. Its terms of reference have increased gradually and now include several major building projects in the two counties.

The disclosures concerning the sale of the bungalows are the first to contain direct allegations against the police. They are supported by documents handed to the police this week by Mr Edward Milne, the independent MP for Blyth.

The two policemen named in the documents and involved in the allegations are Chief Inspector Robert Young and Chief Inspector Albert Barnes, who live respectively at 33 and 39 Newcastle Road, Chester-le-Street. They have not been suspended from their duties.

The documents on which the inquiry is centred include a letter from solicitors acting for the original owner of the land. It questioned the wide differentiation in the prices of the three identical, detached bungalows.

Like Mr Heath, the Liberals reacted to Mr Wilson's "leak". They put out a statement pressuring that "holidaymakers" should not be discriminated, and demanding that postal voting should be allowed on request. Otherwise, the Liberals said, the staggering of polling days in Labour strongholds would be an intolerable form of gerrymandering.

The Liberals also dismissed the precedent of the election held in July 1945, immediately after the last war. Polling took place on different days, but all results were declared on the same day to obviate any "bandwagon" effect. "The unique problem then was the collection and transmission to this country by air of the postal ballot papers of members of the Forces serving overseas", the party said.

Feed price cuts to be passed on

A group of leading animal feed manufacturers said yesterday that any further falls in raw material prices would be passed on in prices.

In talks with Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, who asked them to pass on recent reductions in cereal prices the manufacturers said they had cut prices recently.

Prentice refusal to address students after 'racist' ban

By Our Education Correspondent

Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has rejected all invitations to speak to the National Union of Students because of the union's decision to ban "Fascist" and "racist" speakers from university campuses.

Mr Prentice, rejecting an invitation to speak at a conference in September, said yesterday: "I have decided not to speak to any NUS conference or function so long as this policy prevails." He would address individual student unions that had rejected the policy.

Mr Fowler, Minister of State for higher education, has also refused to speak to students.

Resignation over discipline: Dr Ian Cook, a senior lecturer at

Strikers steadily gaining control in Belfast

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

Shortly after breakfast time yesterday a Finn petrol tanker made its way slowly up Oldpark Road from the centre of Belfast, carrying what has now become one of the most precious commodities in Northern Ireland.

It was not the fuel on board that made the journey so significant, however, but the fact that it was being officially escorted by a carload of members of the Protestant Ulster Volunteer Force, one of the four private armies who are helping to run the Ulster Workers' Council general strike.

The lorry reached its destination safely, as well it might, because the garage in Oldpark

had been designated by the UWC as one of four main petrol distribution points in Belfast. Squads of UDA men assembled outside the petrol station to question motorists who wanted fuel, asking some of them for the special pass cards issued by the workers' council.

The Army may be keeping the streets open in Belfast but control of both amenities and business life seems to be passing steadily into the hands of the strikers. There are no signs of the ration books Mr Rees, the Secretary of State, mentioned in the Commons yesterday, have anything to do with £150,000 at their disposal in west Belfast, most of it profit from the drinking clubs in the Shankill area.

In the Protestant streets the UWC's power is delicately bal-

anced against that of the Army. The barricades are down but only after prolonged discussions with the Army.

In the Shankill area there is a curious relationship between the soldiers and the local loyalist leaders. They greet each other in the street, chat in a local house, and have even met in the UDA's west Belfast headquarters.

There were signs that the UDA were taken off guard when the strike began last week. The politicians were at first unwilling to follow the strikers' decisions, and the UDA did not erect a road block for the first four days. The UVF, legalised only recently, was anxious not to disrupt from its new political policies.

In brief

Awards soon for kidnap heroes

The Home Office is likely to decide within two or three weeks on what medals should be awarded to the people tackled Ian Ball, the gunman who tried to kidnap Prince Anne.

The Queen has made it clear that she does not want exceptionally important honours bestowed just because the cost was involved. The supreme award for gallantry, which is extremely rare, is the George Cross.

4-year cut in sentence

Thomas Gray Stephan, 36, one of the men concern in the £1,572,844 smuggling ring, Lloyd Bank in Baker Street, London, three years ago, has been given a 12-year jail sentence reduced eight years by the Court Appeal yesterday. Mr See, motor trader of Sutton, was sentenced with three others at the Central Criminal Court on January 26 last year.

Petition against min

Mrs Shirley Williams, 43, Secretary of State for Energy and Consumer Protection, is considering a petition presented by the National Union of Miners, against her husband, Peter, 44, who is in the list of future cases in London Divorce Court yesterday. They separated in 1972.

English for doctors

Tests to ensure that doctors coming to Britain are competent and can speak good English will probably be introduced by January the General Medical Council mid yesterday.

Kilbrandon date

The Government's controversial document on the EEC commission's proposed devolution in Scotland and Wales will be published next week of June 3, the Commission's code

Terrorists to be tried on either side of border

From Stewart Tendler
Dublin

Courts in the Republic of Ireland and Ulster are to be given powers to try crimes committed on either side of the border. The system was recommended yesterday in the report of the Law Enforcement Commission set up after the Sunningdale talks and the necessary legislation is to be introduced at Westminster and the Dail.

Petrol supplies have dwindled to negligible proportions and the hundreds of motorists who have queued up outside garages have been questioned by UDA men, demanding to know their business and their names, before being allowed to receive their gallon of fuel.

The crippling shortage of oil is now threatening the railways, the only transport system still operating in Northern Ireland. Only trams in Belfast-Dublin line are running and suburban services to the border may have to be cancelled.

The 60,000 people of Londonderry had good reason to be concerned because the gas supply remains cut off this morning.

Mr Rees's determination received the support of Mr Heath when the Tory leader spoke today on the BBC's *World at One* programme. The Tories, he said, would support the Government in the measures it needed to take in Ulster. It was a political strike carried out in an attempt to force not only the Assembly and Executive but also the Parliament at Westminster to capitulate, he said.

The power stations, according to Mr Hugo Patterson, the electricity service information officer, are facing an imminent total blackout because of a shortage of hydrogen gas, propane gas and caustic and sulphuric acid.

The British Oxygen Company in

the Dail within three weeks. The new method of dealing with terrorists will not be put into operation until both countries have passed the legislation.

The machinery of the system will mean that the accused will be tried by an open session of a special court of either the republic or Ulster.

If witnesses were unwilling to travel, although they would be given guards, evidence would be taken on commission by one of the judges travelling across the border to hear the witness in the other country's court. He would be accompanied by counsel.

Cross-examination would be allowed and the accused could say to be present.

In the months of discussion the commission dismissed the idea of an all-Ireland court, changes in extradition laws on political crimes. The judges travelling across the border to hear the witness in the other country's court would be able to cross the border and escape retribution.

Mr Cooney, the Minister of Justice in the republic, told the Dail yesterday the report's recommendations would mean that in future extremists would not be able to cross the border and escape retribution.

Mr Cooney said the specific legislation required for the commission's recommendation was being drafted at the moment and would probably be presented to

the Dail in the near future.

There appear to have been differences about amending Irish extradition acts to include political crimes. The British contingent argued that it was possible in legal terms both domestically and internationally but the Irish did not accept that because it would have meant a change in the Irish constitution and thus a referendum.

Library saved

Mr Crispin, Secret State for the Environment, agreed to the demolition of the old library, but its Shakespeare Library, the retiring congress director, said that unless the money was forthcoming within eight days the congress would have to be abandoned.

The National Union of Teachers will announce today that changes have been approved by a joint working party of teachers and their employers, and that negotiations to extend the period of paid leave after the birth from seven to 13 weeks are still going on.

Other likely changes include: extending maternity leave to teachers who adopt children; letting teachers to work up to four weeks before the expected date of birth instead of 11; allowing pregnant teachers to leave on full pay if there is a risk of infection from German measles or else get employment in another school; and possibly allowing local authorities to give a few days off with pay to fathers after their baby is born.

The National Union of Teachers will contribute £16,000 to the Hastings congress during the past few years.

Mr Glyde said: "This year

will be the fifth in running the oldest continuous international tournament in the world and it will cost about £2500 a year. Mr Glyde, the retiring congress director, said that unless the money was forthcoming within eight days the congress would have to be abandoned.

The crisis has arisen because

of the decision by Mr Jim Slater, the City financier, to reduce his contribution towards the tournament costs to £2500 a year. Mr Slater, who saved the Fischer-Spassky world title by increasing the prize money by £50,000, has contributed £16,000 to the Hastings congress during the past few years.

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HOME NEWS

Stiffer penalties proposed for councillors who conceal interests

Christopher Warman
Local Government
respondent

A compulsory register of pecuniary interests and a national code of conduct for local councillors are the two main recommendations of the Home Minister's committee on local government rules of conduct, whose report was published yesterday.

The register, open to inspection by any local elector, should include all employees, land and property owned in the area by the authority, any companies which the councillor has more than a specified interest, and the tenancy of premises owned by the authority.

Under the chairmanship of Sir Redcliffe-Maud, the committee also recommends that the disclosure of pecuniary interests should be strengthened, increased penalties for failure to disclose, including disqualification.

Its other main recommendation, the committee says that employees of a local authority should continue to be legally qualified from election as members, and we recommend that they should seriously consider what action this responsibility requires of them.

The report recommends that councillors should be required to disclose a pecuniary interest orally whenever it arises, and that the present partial option of a general written declaration of interests should be abolished. Councillors whose disability for speaking or voting has been removed by a dispensation of the Secretary of State should be expressly required to disclose orally both the interest concerned and the existence of the dispensation.

The committee recognizes that these measures would need changes in council meeting procedure and might cause some practical difficulty. "But we are satisfied that the changes are needed in the interest of openness and public confidence."

A council member who declared an interest should withdraw completely, out of earshot,

so that he could not hear the discussion of the issue in which his interest lay. The committee rejects the suggestion that at an open meeting he could go to the public gallery, on the ground

significance of decisions on land use planning, and the entry of local authorities into the business of comprehensive redevelopment.

Those who sit as members and heads of local authorities, and those in employment of such large resources, bear a heavy responsibility to the community and are at permanent risk from the less scrupulous elements in it.

The committee believes that the two essential safeguards for honesty in local government are the honesty of the individual, and maximum openness by all concerned.

Rules of conduct cannot create honesty; nor can they prevent definite and distinct behaviour.

Rather, they are a framework of reference embodying minimum standards.

Referring to the growth of party politics in local government, particularly after reorganization, the committee says that policies are discussed and often settled in party group meetings open neither to the public nor to the press.

It is particularly at the national level as the local level have a major and continuing responsibility to ensure that standards of conduct at group meetings are no less strict than those at ministerial level.

The committee set up last year by Mr Heath, then the Minister, accepting that there is a great deal of disquiet about conduct in local government at present, committee points out that 964-72, the latest period for which full details were available, 11 members and 22 employees were convicted under Prevention of Corruption Act, and 15 members were convicted of failure to disclose a pecuniary interest.

Own judgment, largely subject to necessity, is that standards in local government are really high. At the same time share the public concern that corruption exists; and it is a fact unless corruption is stopped reads. "The only acceptable standard for British local government is complete honesty."

In England and Wales, and Scotland, was more than £1,600m. compared with less than £1,600m. 20 years earlier.

Specific developments contributing to that growth were

growth in the value of assets placed by local authorities

the increasing financial



Sir Redcliffe-Maud, chairman of the committee.

that his presence might inhibit his colleagues from speaking freely.

Recommending a statutory compulsory register of pecuniary interests, the committee says that objections to it are outweighed by the substantial contribution to public confidence which a carefully designed register could make.

We do not believe... it would represent any greater intrusion on privacy than may rightly be required of some individuals, subject to their own office; or that it would deter many people from service.

A register would help to show that councillors had nothing to hide; help to remove the groundless suspicion which malice could now attach to innocent people; and give the electorate a more accessible picture of the member's general background than the record of specific disclosures at meetings, and would for that reason be a more convincing demonstration of openness.

The register should include the interests of the member's spouse where known to the member, but not those of any other relative.

The committee's recommenda-

tions for inclusion in the register are:

1. All paid employments and occupations, including directorships, consultancies, and any sponsorship of the member by any organization or person. The amount of the income involved need not be stated.

2. All land or other real property

in the area for which the member is responsible, and such in which he is closely related to the work of one or more of the council's committees or subcommittees.

3. Companies or other bodies where the member has beneficial interest, or securities of a nominal value greater than £1,000, or one hundredth of the issued share capital, whichever is the less. The amount of the holding need not be stated. Investments and unit trusts should be excluded.

4. Any tenancy of premises owned by the authority.

The present maximum penalty for failure to disclose—a £200 fine—should be raised to bring it into line with contemporary

money values and to indicate its seriousness.

The committee recommends a maximum penalty of fine of £400, or six months' imprisonment, or both, for a summary trial, or two years' imprisonment and an unlimited fine for trial by indictment.

The period of indictment under which proceedings could be brought should be increased from six months, to 12 months from the date when the alleged offence became known, or five years from the date of its commission.

The law should not be changed, the committee recommends, in regard to the disqualification of employees of an authority from becoming members of it. In evidence, the Labour Party, the TUC and individual unions emphasized the importance of removing or relaxing that disqualification.

The committee says the arguments in favour of such a move were outweighed by the need to avoid conflicts of interest, to maintain political impartiality, and to secure sound internal relationships in the authority's organization.

There is no category of employees to which none of these considerations applies. No clear distinction can be made between employees who should remain disqualified and those who should not.

One partial exception was the cooption of teachers to education committees. The committee does

not recommend the abolition of that provision, although three of the seven members of the committee favoured its abolition.

The committee recommends that where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting corruption, officers should be given power, available only on application by the Director of Public Prosecutions to a High Court judge, for the police to inspect the financial records of persons or organizations before the start of proceedings. It also seeks a change in the law to allow a court discretion to disqualify a person convicted of corruption for membership of a local authority for life on a first conviction.

To maintain standards, the local authority must keep its own house in order and enable others to see whether it is doing so, the committee urges. It should have a clear and publicly known machinery for reviewing its own procedures and for investigating complaints; and should pursue vigorous policies of two-way communication with the public.

In that, the press, radio and television also had important

responsibilities.

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A Home Office inquiry was begun after Mrs Ali had told Mr Wilson of the affair between Myra Hindley and Miss Cairns, a former Conservative nun.

At the Central Criminal Court in April Miss Cairns was jailed for six years for conspiring to effect Myra Hindley's escape.

Myra Hindley, already serving a life sentence for the moors murders, was given a one-year sentence for the conspiracy.

Mrs Ali said yesterday:

"Make no mistake, I want a lot of money. As far as I am concerned £500,000 would be about right."

She said she had received letters threatening to kill her if she received compensation.

She still had letters from prison, including one from Myra Hindley and planned to give more details on life in Holloway.

Recompense for Myra Hindley's go-between

Mrs Patricia Ali, who lost six months' remission for making a "false" accusation about a prison officer's lesbian relationship with Myra Hindley, is to get compensation, an MP disclosed yesterday.

Mr William Wilson, Labour MP for Coventry, South East, has been told by Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, that he is to appoint an independent assessor to hear representations and suggest an appropriate sum.

Mrs Ali, aged 45, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, was serving 30 years at Holloway for a car insurance fraud. She reported the relationship between Myra Hindley and Patricia Cairns, a prison officer, after acting as their go-between.

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Man cleared

Cleveland Albert Gregory, aged 41, of Brixham Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, a bus driver, was cleared at Winchester Crown Court yesterday of three charges of conspiring to import and exporting cannabis into Britain.

Draft code sets out guidelines

The report sets out a draft for a national code of conduct for all councillors and to provide an explicit public standard which those outside local government can expect from it. It reads:

1. National code of local government conduct

2. A code of conduct for all councillors elected or co-opted to local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland. It supplements both the law enacted by Parliament and the standing orders made by individual councils.

3. Law, standing orders and internal code

4. That you fully understand the rules of conduct which the law, standing orders and the internal code require you to follow.

It is your personal responsibility to apply their requirements every relevant occasion and to advise them that you come from your council's senior officer.

Public duty and private test

Your overriding duty as a councillor is to the whole local authority.

You have a special duty to own constituents, including those who did not vote for you.

Whenever you have a pecuniary or personal interest in any issue which councillors have to decide, you must not do anything that that interest influences the on.

Do nothing as a councillor if you could not justify it if it were public.

The reputation of your council or of your party if you belong to one depends on your conduct and what the public believes about your conduct.

Disclosure of pecuniary and interests

The law makes specific provisions requiring you to disclose pecuniary interests, direct and indirect.

But interests which are not pecuniary may be just as important.

Friendship, membership of an association, society, or union, trusteeship and many kinds of relationship can influence your judgement and give the impression that might be misleading.

A good test is to ask yourself whether others think the interest close to you or of anybody else in position. If you think they are in doubt, treat it as if it were a pecuniary

interest.

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call to the legal provisions

dealing with complaints by

Minister of State, Complainant, told the Commons

Committee on Local Government Rules of Conduct (Stationery Office, 57p.)

Government considering wide union review body

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it might come forward with something definite at the time of the Employment Protection Bill.

The committee was considering a Conservative amendment later withdrawn, which would have had the effect of re-enacting in the Bill those sections of the Industrial Relations Act referring to "guiding principles" for trade unions and employers.

Since March 1972, there had been 200 complaints against unions by members, former members and others, Mr Booth said. Only 15 per cent had been upheld.

edge to housing groups

Committee to help housing associations in difficulty was yesterday by Mr Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction during his Commons Committee on the Housing Bill. "I am concerned measures we are already taking may not go far enough in dealing with the immediate needs of some associations," he said.

Government would introduce an amendment to the Bill dealing with the matter presented. He emphasized that local

authorities had the powers to consider ways of helping housing associations in an emergency. The financial difficulties of the associations were probably not merely immediate and temporary. "We are therefore reviewing the general arrangements for rent subsidies for housing associations. If their problems prove endemic there may be a need to introduce revenue deficit financing provisions in place of the present subsidy system."

Prison officers call for closed visits

From Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent
Weston-super-Mare

Enormous amounts of drugs and small trusted blades hard enough to cut through the specially hardened bars are being passed into Albany top security prison during open visits, Mr James Roberts, an officer there, told the annual conference of the Prison Officers' Association at Weston-super-Mare yesterday.

Prison officers had openly said to officers: "You can't watch us all the time."

Mr Roberts said: "We at Albany face difficulties most days of the week by articles being passed through on open visits." Three officers had to

watch 30 prisoners.

Officers at the conference called for closed visits at all prisons with high-risk prisoners.

Officers also accused the Home Office of using the Official Secrets Act to gag comment on matters of public interest. Mr Alfred Pitman of Bristol, said: "It has been said that if the Official Secrets Act were removed we might say things that would embarrass the minister in the House. If that is so, then it is time these things were said."



British airways

British Airways back with unrivalled worldwide service.
Daily 747's to Jo'burg.
More flights to more North American cities direct from the U.K.
Widest range and coverage of the Caribbean and South America.
Our world-famous care on flights to Australasia and the Far East.
As always, we offer more flights to more places in Europe and throughout the United Kingdom, than any other airline.
Your travel agent or British Airways shop will give you full details.

HOME NEWS

Summerland report says many human errors led to disaster

From John Chartres

Douglas, Isle of Man

Faults in design, many inadequacies and failures in management and lack of good communications between the various bodies concerned with the Isle of Man's Summerland leisure centre all contributed to the fire that killed 50 people.

Those are the main findings of the commission of inquiry, published today in a 35,000-word document.

The commission says, however, that there were "no villains". It goes on:

"There were many human errors and failures and it was the accumulation of these, too much reliance on an "old boy" network and some very ill defined and poor communications which led to the disaster."

In some words of comfort to all concerned, the commission, which was headed by Mr Justice Frank, said: "It would be unjust not to acknowledge that not every failure which is obvious now would be obvious before the disaster but the structure and people to the test."

The commission makes 34 recommendations, many of which will have fundamental effects on the architectural profession, building industry and local government.

They include suggestions that architectural training should include a much extended study of fire protection and precautions; and that the theatre regulations applying both to the Isle of Man and the rest of the United Kingdom should be revised and extended as a matter of urgency.

The architects and designers; the Isle of Man Government and Douglas Corporation (which jointly sponsored and owned Summerland) and Trust Houses Forte (Leisure) Ltd, which operated it as lessee, all take shares of the commission's criticisms of inadequacies, failures and human errors.

The report says that Summerland was a multistorey building intended to house large numbers of people but it was constructed without "the essential safety feature of 'compartmentation': the provision of barriers to separate people from a fire risk and to contain a fire if it breaks out in a limited area.

In Summerland the audience and the fire risk were mixed up together on the solariun and the upper terraces, each of which had no separation from any other part of the building.

The building and its use also involved a factor that the commission says has never figured before in a fire disaster: most of the children in the building were engaged in separate activities from their parents (one of the main ideas of the whole project was to provide different sorts of fun for young and old) so that when they broke out many parents lost their lives trying to find their children instead of immediately making good their own escapes.

The commission comments: "It is easy to say that it should have been appreciated and provided for. It seems very obvious now. However, it was an unusual feature and it may have been understandable for it to have been more understandable for it to have been concerned with fire precautions before the building went into operation than for Trust Houses Forte (Leisure) Ltd to have overlooked it once the various features were

set out and the building was in actual operation.

The report makes detailed comments on the use of three relatively new materials used in the construction of the building, Oroglass, the transparent plastic material used for the roof and part of the walling; Galbestos, the cladding material used for walls, and Decalin, a type of fibreboard used as an interior lining to the Galbestos wall in the area where the fire first spread.

The combination of the two latter materials in a way suggested by Mr John Frank, an interior designer employed by Gillinson Barnett, of Leeds, who were associate architects for the project, created a concealed void with a combustible inner surface on both sides.

Such a void is a dangerous fire hazard and a serious breach of good building practice. This error, which was not a structural contribution to the disaster of the fire, arose from an unfortunate combination of circumstances at a time of intense activity. Mr Frank did not know the properties of Decalin and did not know that it was combustible.

On Oroglass the report comments:

The behaviour of a small burning sample gives little indication of the behaviour which will be produced by the behaviour of the material for夏曼德蘭樂園。

It is obvious that the rate of burning of Oroglass increases rapidly as it is heated by other burning material near to it.

In view of the strong recommendation of the commission of inquiry that Oroglass should be protected from direct contact with flames it is difficult to explain why the designers, architects, and some fabricators alike permitted the long edges of all the roof domes to be exposed and un-protected.

The report says the Galbestos east wall of the building provided the path by which the fire spread to the interior. Several changes were made to the original design to reduce costs, and the commission comments that neither the architects nor H. H. Robertson (UK) Ltd, suppliers of the material, gave much thought to the fire risk in making the changes.

Of the principal architect and his firm, J. Phillips Lomas and Partners, the commission says that his firm on the Isle of Man is small and has rarely involved more than six people, of whom Mr Lomas himself and his partner, Mr Brian Gelling, were the only qualified architects. The firm had undertaken no work outside the island at the date of the project.

The choice of Mr Lomas as principal architect by Douglas Corporation and the Local Government Board of the Isle of Man "presumably" was made without recognising that he had controlled only a small architectural office all his life, and that his experience was limited only to modest building designs.

The relationships between Mr Lomas's firm and Gillinson Barnett and Partners, of Leeds, who were appointed associate architects, are also spotlighted by the commission.

Summerland required a first-class architect and manager working on the project during its design, erection and completion. The two senior partners in the two architectural practices involved, Mr J. P. Lomas and Mr Clifford Barnett, once the original brochure had



The fire at the Summerland leisure centre last August when 50 people died.

been presented, did not thereafter put design pencil to paper. The significant skills of designing and the decisions thus taken were passed successively to two job architects, neither of whom had been associated with that kind and magnitude of project before.

No one client, authorities or architect, ever saw back and looked at the project as a whole. Each could have done so, within the terms of their responsibility. Neither principal, Mr Lomas nor Mr Barnett, did so, and Mr Lomas, with his due regard for his client, was even unwilling to admit in evidence that he acted as a "post box or conduit" between Gillinson Barnett and the participants on the island. It became clear that communications, particularly those of a decisive character, were indifferent between the two.

Quotations from letters which were written during the design period establish the kind of attitudes which sometimes arose. Examples are "we might get away with it"; "treating the theatre regulations with a pinch of salt"; and "I do not think we need worry unduly on the question of fire resistance". The town council will have to apply a waiver and I do not think for one moment that they will refuse it."

On the relationships between the Local Government Board of the Isle of Man Government, Douglas Corporation and the architects, the commission refers to the waiver of local by-laws affecting the use of non-combustible materials such as Oroglass, and comments that it was unfortunate that there was a lack of communication between the two authorities.

The commission says: "It is easy to say that it should have been appreciated and provided for. It seems very obvious now. However, it was an unusual feature and it may have been understandable for it to have been more understandable for it to have been concerned with fire precautions before the building went into operation than for Trust Houses Forte (Leisure) Ltd to have overlooked it once the various features were

given that there would be no repetition."

The commission says relatively little about the original cause of the fire, the now proved setting alight of a kiosk alongside one of the walls by a group of three Liverpool schoolboys.

The commission's recommendations are:

In the designing of a building of this type a named person should be in charge from the outset and

take and be known to be taking the major design decisions.

Architects and clients should combine to consider carefully the building in use at the stage when conceptual designs are proposed, and before proceeding with details.

Performance should embrace efficient and comfortable occupancy and usage, and safety.

Building inspections during construction should be conducted for quality and safety by architects and local authority inspectors.

They should be duly recorded to confirm that the building is being built in accordance with the approved plans and the relevant by-laws and regulations.

The Theatre-Regulations should be revised and extended so that they cover the conditions of safety regulations plainly applicable to a public entertainment building which is not a theatre in the ordinary sense.

The commission's chapter of recommendations concludes with the words:

This terrible fire, one of the most rapidly developing fires ever to occur in a public building, has not only left a temporary mark on the minds of Manxmen. It was tragedy enough, but the commission believes it could have been even worse if Summerland had been occupied by 5,000 people later in the evening after dark and the fire had started then.

Apart from Mr Justice Cantley, the two other members of the commission are Mr P. S. Wilks-Dickson, a fire expert, and Professor Denis Harper, of the building department of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

The commission sat for 49 days between November 1973 and February this year, and heard evidence from 91 witnesses. Eight Queen's Counsel were among the legal representatives of interested parties, and the cost of the inquiry is estimated at £400,000.

WEST EUROPE

M Giscard d'Estaing cuts down pomp for his inauguration

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, May 23

To the dismay of officials at the Elysée Palace M Giscard d'Estaing has insisted on the simplest of ceremonies for his induction as President on Monday.

After the ceremony he will break with all precedent by walking up the Champs-Elysées to lay a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier, instead of driving in an open car with a mounted escort of the Republican Guard.

For the crowds in Paris the day will begin when the new President leaves his car at the corner of the Champs-Elysées and walks to the Elysée Palace, so that the people passed behind crash-barriers can have a good look and cheer him.

Motorists have been told to give way for the ceremony in the early days of the month. All the civic dignitaries present, including the President, will wear lounge suits. About 30 children from a state school will be there with their teachers.

The Republican Guard in full dress will be missing at the salute to the flag on the terrace of the palace. Instead, a detachment of national servicemen from the Second Dragoons, the regiment in which the new President served as a corporal at the end of the war, will present arms and the band will be provided by an infantry regiment.

During his walk up the Champs Elysées to the Arc de Triomphe, military bands will play the revolutionary "Chant du Départ", M Giscard d'Estaing's signature tune during the election campaign.

All schoolchildren will have a half holiday to watch the ceremonies on television—a decision which the left-wing teacher unions have condemned as "demagogic".

On Monday also the new Prime Minister will be announced. Intense speculation continues in political circles and in the press about his name and the composition of the new government, the more so of this time there have not been any of this usual leaks.

Earlier this week, the possibility of a non-political "technician" being chosen was heavily canvassed, but this idea has lost ground and M Jean-Pierre Foucault, a "young" 53, and a Minister of Education in the

last government, is now considered a likely choice. He is a member of the centrist PDM party and introduced a bold and highly controversial reform of secondary education. He came out in favour of M Chirac-Delmas before the first ballot of the election, which makes him acceptable to the Gaullists.

The name of M Jacques Chirac, the young and very ambitious Minister of the Interior, has also been mentioned. He led a revolt in the Gaullist party against M Chirac-Delmas, ostensibly for M Messmer, but really for M Giscard d'Estaing.

His appointment, however, would be like a red rag to many Gaullists, who regard him as responsible for their candidate's fiasco. It seems more likely that he will become Minister of Finance.

M Giscard d'Estaing will keep overall control of foreign affairs.

His foreign minister will be a religious holiday mode.

The name of M Michel Jobert, a popular figure with the public, is frequently mentioned.

He agrees with the new President on four basic principles of foreign policy: the preservation of the nuclear deterrent; the rejection of any neutralization of central Europe; the creation of a European confederation, and relations of equality with the United States. The only question is whether the two men get on together personally.

Prince Pomazowski, the closest confidant of the new President, his campaign strategist and indispensable right-hand man, will most probably become Minister of the Interior, and perhaps Foreign Minister at a later stage.

M Jean Leclercq, the president of the Democratic Centre, who after more than 10 years in opposition, has finally got his chance, will be appointed to the new government.

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Spy charge denied by Bonn

From Our Own Correspondent

Bonn, May 23

The West German Government took the unusual step of organizing a press conference at a religious holiday mode.

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OVERSEAS

Dr Soares says Portugal must profit from the decolonizing experience of Britain and others

Lisbon, May 23.—Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese Foreign Minister, today praised the leaders of the liberation movements in his country's three African territories as "men of open stature" and appealed to their rulers to accept self-determination of the three lands as a solution that would safeguard their interests and assure a future for their children.

He made the statement on the eve of his departure for London, where he will meet Guinea rebel leaders, for the first official peace talks in the 13-year-old African wars. His Government is hoping for similar talks with the rebels in Mozambique and Angola soon.

Dr Soares said the first task was to achieve a ceasefire, and the second to discuss the three territories would be determined by a referendum. "Details of the referendum have not been worked out," he told journalists. "One of the primary tasks of the Government is to calm the White population there."

"We must tell them that it [self-determination] is in their own interest and for their children's future. It best serves them... We need their co-operation."

The leaders of the liberation movements, whom the former right-wing regime called terrorists, he said, men of great stature "not only in their own countries but in the international field".

Mr António Pereira, of the Guinea liberation movement, whom he will meet in London, was "a man of the open spirit". Dr Soares said his "Aogostino" had been the head of the movement for the liberation of Angola was "a great leader and a poet" and Mr Amorim Machado, head of

Frelimo (Front for the Liberation of Mozambique) was "a man of great knowledge and a great sense of responsibility".

Dr Soares used the word decolonization in describing future developments in Portuguese Africa. He said the way chosen by Portugal's new rulers was based on the experience of Britain, France, Holland and other countries in dissolving their former empires. "We have to accept these experiences in our own decolonization," he said.

Asked how South Africa and Rhodesia would react to Portuguese territories being run by blacks, Dr Soares said: "This is a problem concerning only those countries. But I think the South Africa should not be afraid of any interference from our side as our policy toward other nations will be based on mutual respect and non-interference in other countries' internal affairs."

"If I personally do not agree with the racist policy of South Africa, it does not mean I do not respect them. We will continue our relationship of good neighbourliness." Portugal would try to continue good relations with all its old friends, including Spain.

He said new links would have to be forged, possibly with British mentorship, with communist countries, the Arab world and the nations of Africa. He predicted problems with Chile where, he said, relations might suffer because of the treatment of political prisoners held by the right-wing Junta.

The European Economic Community was now open to him to enter into negotiations with Portugal to withdraw permission for Rhodesian troops to enter Mozambique in pursuit of guerrillas. —Agence France Presse and UPI.

Leading article, page 15

Wiriyamu investigator on mission to Lisbon

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, May 23

A member of the United Nations commission investigating alleged massacres in Mozambique flew from Madrid to Lisbon today for informal contacts with the Portuguese authorities.

General Machado was replaced by General Orlando Barbosa, who arrived quietly from Lisbon on Tuesday and flew directly to Nampula, the military headquarters of the armed forces here.

Dr Soares, who hinted that the new Governor of Mozambique might be a former opponent of Dr Caetano, Dr Henrique Soares de Melo, left for Angola today, after a three-day visit without having settled any of the outstanding labour or political issues.

He held a special press conference before his departure for Luanda to make it clear that he had never said Mozambique

would have a black government within a year. He believed that Mozambique would have a black government eventually, but he was unable to say when this would be.

Although the Portuguese armed forces wanted peace, they were prepared to continue the war against Frelimo until agreement had been reached on a ceasefire, he said.

This statement appeared to have been made to reassure South Africa, observers said. However, he went farther when he added: "Rhodesia need have no fears about its security position." He said he was not aware of any instructions from Lisbon withdrawing permission for Rhodesian troops to enter Mozambique in pursuit of guerrillas. —Agence France Presse and UPI.

Leading article, page 15

**Beirut accusation of British prejudice**

From Paul Martin
Beirut, May 23

Britain is becoming flagrantly prejudiced in favour of Israel, ignoring or seeming to ignore the Arab rights.

With no army to speak of, Lebanon has traditionally depended on world public opinion in its struggle to maintain an independent national identity in the murky party of Middle East politics. Hence, it is very sensitive about the reactions of important world governments to any acts of aggression from outside.

The expressions of Lebanon's displeasure involve a veiled threat to Britain. Quoting an unidentified Arab ambassador in the same report, the National News Agency questioned Britain's vital economic relations with the Arabs.

The message to Mrs Golda Meir, the Israeli Prime Minister, was that the Arabs "last November the Arab heads of state decided to classify Britain as a friendly nation, exempting her from restrictions imposed against Israel's friends... But after the Maalot incident and repeated Israeli aggression against Lebanon, we were surprised to see Britain taking a prejudiced stand in Israel's favour."

It quoted the ambassador as saying: "At the summit conference in Algiers last November the Arab heads of state decided to classify Britain as a friendly nation, exempting her from restrictions imposed against Israel's friends... But after the Maalot incident and repeated Israeli aggression against Lebanon, we were surprised to see Britain taking a prejudiced stand in Israel's favour."

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Sheila Black

Shopping around



I still rave about Club pans, which I have been using for a year. They are of cast aluminium, coated with tough enamel. The ringed bases of these pans spread the heat, and they are really designed for virtually waterless cooking. They are as good as the old-fashioned cast-iron pans, but with the advantage of being light and easy to use.

Turn off the heat before cooking is finished, and see how long the pan keeps the food hot. They are also available with a Teflon coating.

Club pans cost a bit more than ordinary ones but they are worth it. For example, a 1-litre saucepan, with lid, is about £4.95. A generous-sized chicken fryer (illustrated, back left of picture) is about £9.35. The big roasting pan, with high lid, is about £11.95.

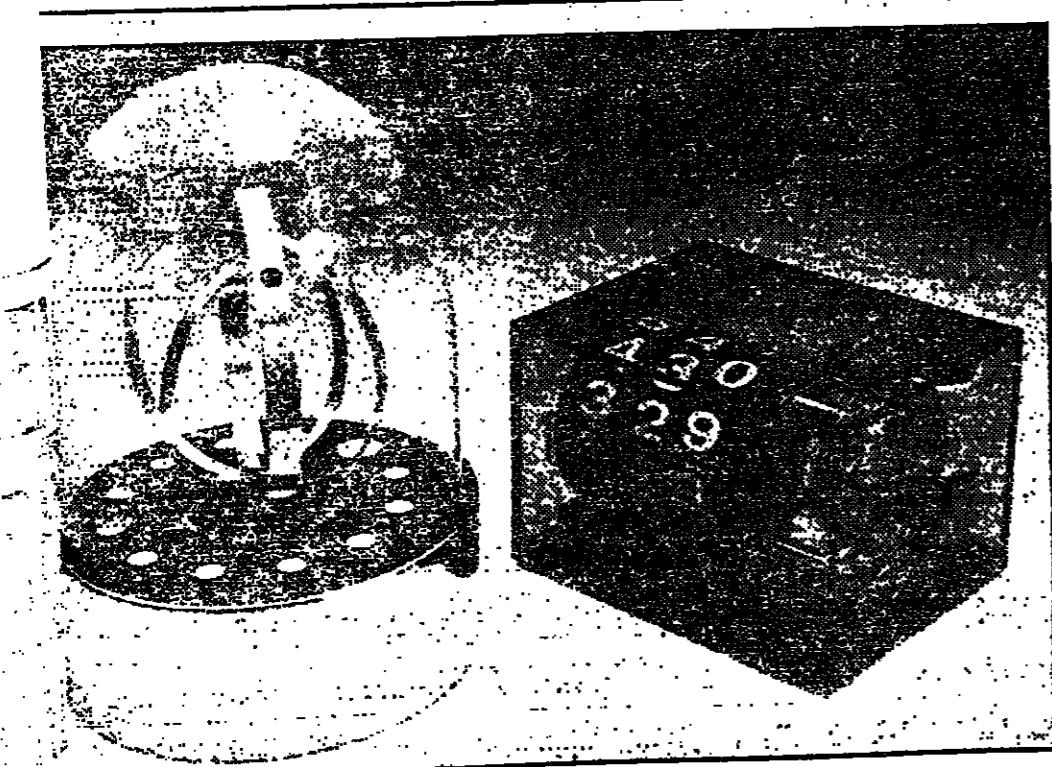
Get leaflets, stockists and details from Premier Services, 11 Central Hill, London SE19 1BG. The new milk pan, which is only in the Teflon-lined finish, has lips on both sides for left or right-handed pouring.

Premier is also importing a superb range of pale, pine woodware from Finland; expensive, but beautiful. The blocks of wood are laminated, which makes for strength and elegance.

In the front of the photograph, on the left, is a circular cheese board with a looped rope on its centre, upright handle (at about £3.20), give or take a few pence, and according to where you shop for it; next to it are a couple of plain boards, little one for chopping (£1.60) and a bigger one for carving, chopping or serving (about £4.30). A rounded board, back right, is good for bread, joints, cold meats, cheeses, serving, chopping or anything.

The salad bowl is a block of wood 7in high by 9in square, hollowed-out in the middle. The price is about £19.90. Details of stockists from Premier Services of the above address.

Photograph by Trevor Sutton



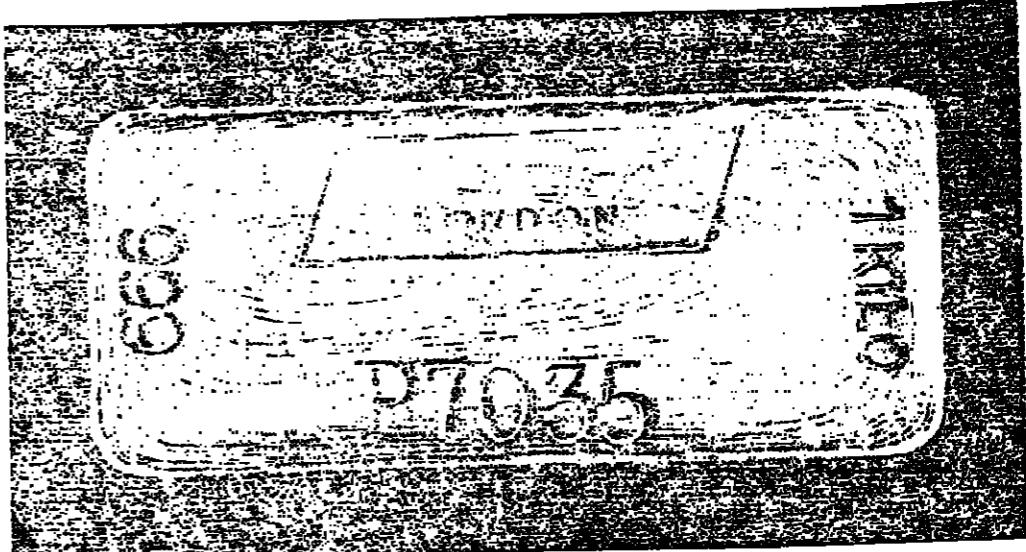
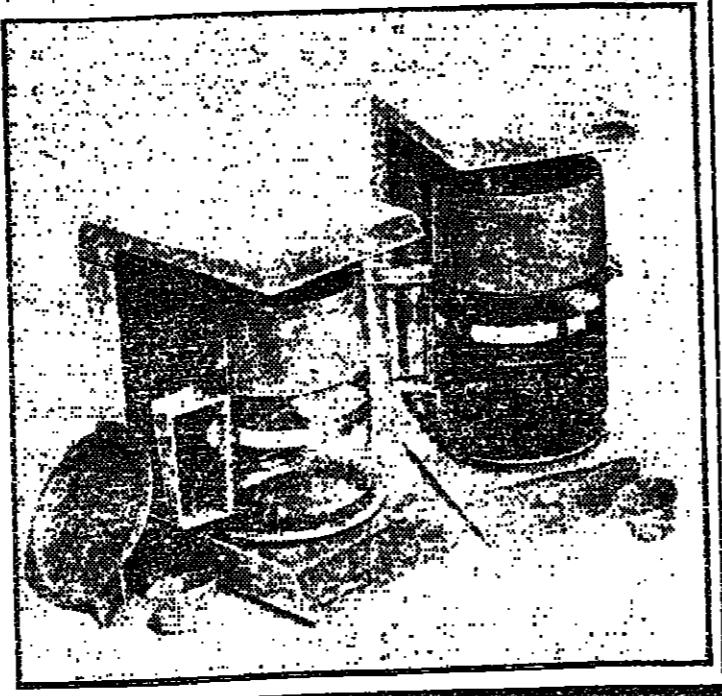
Digital Clock is nude, without an opaque so that you can see all the works, including battery if you turn it sideways. The clock can be encased in opaque plastic—choose from orange, red, blue, mauve, black, and a red satin finish that looks like chrome. It costs £25.

Hoop Clock has a polished chrome base,

a glass dome and a battery movement—it has to be studied from above to give the time clearly. The price is £28. Both clocks are in an original range from Christon Associates—there is one called La Posit which looks like a giant rectangular wrist watch supported on a steel bracelet (£25).

Stockists and illustrated leaflets from Christon Associates, 9/12 Brandon Road, London N.7.

Moulinex may not have made it first, but Moulinex does make it relatively cheaply. The firm has often been described as the Ford of the domestic appliance business, and the comparison is intended to be flattering. The latest piece from Moulinex is an electrical filter for coffee. The six-cup model is £9.95 and the 12-cup is £11.95 (VAT included). The insulated jug handle, filter holder, jug lid and measure are all in coffee-coloured plastic, and the jug is finished with a stainless steel trim. In most Moulinex stockists now—and there are plenty of those. For stockists and a colour leaflet showing the whole Moulinex range, write to the firm at Station Approach, Coulsdon North, Coulsdon, Surrey.



SILVER KILOBAR PAPERWEIGHT

"A solid investment" - *The Times*:

"If you fancy a small gamble on silver, and could do with an unusual paperweight as well, take a look at this Kilobar Paperweight." - *The Financial Times*.

The above drawing shows the actual-sized Silver Kilobar Paperweight, which measures 4½ inches x 2 inches x ½ inch, and contains over 2.2 pounds of pure silver.

Each bar is presented in its own velvet-lined case, and makes an ideal gift. We will engrave your name, initials, message, etc., on the ingot, with no extra cost for up to 25 letters. Each Silver Kilobar is stamped with the dealer's mark, seal and number, as well as '1 KILO' and '999' (the fraction of pure silver in the bar).

The value of silver quadrupled in the 2 years ending February 1974. In fact the value of silver more than doubled in the first 2 months of this year. Each Kilobar should therefore be considered as an heirloom investment.

Today's price of the Silver Kilobar Paperweight is £125* (inc. V.A.T.). This price also includes the presentation case, engraving and insured delivery. Immediate despatch for the first 50 orders ordered. Otherwise delivery is 10-25 days.

*Today's price guaranteed for all orders received within 10 days.

HERITAGE CLUB, 407 Holloway Rd., London N7 6HJ. Tel: 01-607 1620.9.
Telex: 262420.

I would like to order _____ Silver Kilobar 'Paperweight(s)' at £125 Each* (inc. V.A.T.).

Please accept my enclosed cheque for £_____.

Please engrave the following:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____



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SUMMER SPECIAL the bare, beautiful minimum, to wear.

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FANTASTIC BARGAINS!
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fabrics. Bargain bundles for
BLACK SUEDE LEATHERS
plus in BROWN & SEAL. Woollen
rugs for RUGS. Duvets
and duvet covers. Plain &
brushed duvets. Washable
denim jeans. 100%
cotton towels. 100%
cotton bedlinen.
FREE CATALOGUE. PAPER
COUPON. RAEPART ST.

PARLIAMENT, May 23, 1974.

Ulster minister attacks Mr Paisley for 'making a mockery of the Christianity I learnt'

House of Commons

MR MERLYN REES, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Leeds, South, Lab), in a statement on matters arising from or in connection with the Sunningdale Agreement regarding the Council of Ireland, policing, demarcation and the report of the Law Enforcement Commission, said:—

The House will be aware that the Northern Ireland Executive issued last night a statement on the basis upon which it is prepared to enter into a conference with the Irish Government and the Irish Government jointly set up a commission to advise them on the most effective means, from a legal point of view, of bringing to justice fugitive political offenders who had fled the jurisdiction of the Northern Ireland Executive.

The proposals now put forward carefully protect the interests of both communities and are consistent with the overriding requirement in the Constitution that there shall be no change in the status of Northern Ireland without the consent of the majority of the people in Northern Ireland.

It is good sense that there should be institutions in Ireland as a whole so that the people there work together in cooperation with one another, in the interest of all.

Police authority

The Sunningdale agreement also provided for a limited, and carefully defined, role for the Council of Ministers in relation to policing. In particular, HM Government undertook that appointments to the Northern Ireland police authority would be made after consultation with the Northern Ireland Assembly, which consults with and consults with the Council of Ministers. I propose to lay before the House immediately after the recess an order reconstituting the police authority.

In addition, steps have been taken to set up an all-party committee from the Assembly to examine how best to introduce effective policing throughout Northern Ireland with particular reference to the need to achieve public identification with the police. That committee will meet shortly.

Crimes of violence

HM Government and the Irish Government reached an agreement in principle that persons committing crimes of violence, however motivated, in any part of Ireland should be brought to trial irrespective of the part of Ireland in which they had committed the offence.

It is good sense that there

should be institutions in Ireland as a whole so that the people there work together in cooperation with one another, in the interest of all.

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Deterrent

The existence of the legislation itself will deter those who commit such crimes in one part of Ireland from seeking refuge in the other.

It will remain open to both Governments to continue to seek extradition whenever they consider it appropriate as a means of dealing with fugitive offenders. But, where extradition is sought but not achieved and sufficient evidence is available, prosecution will be undertaken by the authorities of the part of Ireland in which the alleged offender is.

The commission agreed that it would be legally feasible to confer power on the courts in both parts of Ireland so that the courts in each part would be able to try certain specified crimes wherever in Ireland they were committed. All the members recommended this as a method which could be introduced quickly.

The United Kingdom members made it clear that they would prefer the extraction solution, but the members from the Republic could not advise that an agreement on legislation providing for extradition might be possible under the Irish constitution, to which they were subject.

HM Government and the Irish Government have accepted the agreed recommendation contained in the report and will, following its adoption, introduce reciprocal legislation creating extradition arrangements so that the courts in each part of Ireland will have jurisdiction to try under their own laws certain offences wherever committed in Ireland.

It is a matter of regret to HM Government that the commission disagreed about the feasibility of amending the Irish constitution, but it is clear from the report that all the members of the commission are confident that the extension of jurisdiction is not even to say valid objection in law.

The effect of this proposed legislation will be that in future those suspected of having committed certain specified terrorist offences in Northern Ireland but who have escaped to the Republic should be brought to trial irrespective of the part of Ireland in which they had committed the offence.

Both Governments believe that there is scope for improving border security to deter terrorists from exploiting the border and to increase the prospects of catching them in the act.

Mr CLEDWYN HUGHES (Anglesey, Lab)—There is pro-

posed to accept the proposals in the report that special security arrangements should be made to encourage witnesses to travel into the other's jurisdiction to give evidence; and to include in their respective legislation provisions to enable, in cases where witnesses are unwilling to travel, evidence to be taken on commission in the presence of the court and to be secured if he wishes. In the way in which the commission recommended.

I am confident that the agreement I have announced will be an important contribution towards bringing to trial those responsible for terrorism in Ireland. Equally important, however, is the prevention of acts of terrorism and the apprehension of those who are responsible.

On the Law Commission, he has agreed to it quicker in dealing with fugitive offenders. What about the question of witnesses? I suspect will be a problem when crossing the border comes into it?

It is a disappointment that members from the Republic should have advised that it is possible that a change in the extradition law might not be valid under the Irish constitution. Will there be a further look at this?

There is a tremendous job of communication between the Government here and the Government in Northern Ireland, with all the people in Northern Ireland.

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My responsibility is to the House and not to the sort of people he is associating with backed by para-military groups.

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SIR GEOFFREY DE FREY (Kettering, Lab)—Can he confirm that neither the Government nor the Department of Health and Social Services said he would not make any attempt to try and get essential services through the strike?

MR REES—No.

£4,000 plus Appointments

MARKETING MANAGER MAIDENHEAD

We are a small but leading Marketing and Promotional Group sited in Maidenhead, and due to progressive growth now require a highly capable and experienced Marketing man. Chief responsibilities will be for:

Maintaining existing business with current international clients.
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The position requires a man with real qualities gained at product management level within fast-moving consumer marketing, preferably a Graduate with a blue chip record. Obviously demonstration of career progression will be important, together with pleasant personality with real entrepreneurial skills required, not simply a corporation geared marketing man, i.e. you will need the ability to plan, propose, present and decide.

The Company offers genuine opportunity to join a Company where your future development will be dependent on your own ability. Salary is negotiable but will interest people earning around £4,000 per annum. Other benefits include a quality Company Car, Pension Scheme, Life Assurance plus longer term likelihood of Partnership or Directorship.

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M.S. MARKETING DEVELOPMENTS LTD.
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SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Appointment of REGIONAL ARCHITECT

Salary Scale: £6,900 rising to £8,400

Required to be responsible for the architectural branch of the R.H.A. works organisation. Accountable to the Regional Works Officer, he will give advice on all architectural matters and participate in the formulation of the capital programme. He is the named architect when work is undertaken directly by the Authority; where work is entrusted to consultant architects he will instruct them.

Candidates must be registered architects from within the Health Service in England. They will be knowledgeable about national standards in the N.H.S. and capable by professional competence and temperament of monitoring and co-ordinating the activities of works staff at Area. Evidence will be required of several years' experience in the design, construction and management of major building projects and of teams executing such work.

Requests for application forms and further particulars should be made, in writing, to the Secretary, Appointments Unit (South Western Region), Room 112, 38 Victoria Street, Bristol BS1 6DZ.

Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, 14th June, 1974.

EXECUTIVE SALES

We are a very successful Management Consultant Company with headquarters in the U.S.A. and with a record of fourteen years continued client satisfaction. We are presently in process of expanding our marketing effort in London and in other industrial centres.

The individuals in question must be of sufficient stature to deal almost entirely at Managing Director level and must possess the intelligence and flexibility to conduct their selling in a manner which properly conveys our Company philosophy and high ethical standard. An industrial background and experience in selling a service will be of advantage.

Remuneration will not be less than £5,000 in salary, plus commission. The successful candidates can realistically set their income objectives at over £10,000 as they contribute to our Company's growth.

All replies will be treated confidentially.

Kindly enclose curriculum vitae and any other pertinent information, including telephone number to Box 871 D, The Times.

SOLICITOR

with experience in Town and Country Planning Law, including advocacy, required for post of Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (Legal).

SALARY £4,860-£5,367

With the consent of the Local Government Staff Commission there is no restriction on applications for this post.

The successful applicant will be responsible for all legal work and some committee work of Kingswood District Council, in the new County of Avon.

Mortgage facilities and assistance with removal expenses available.

Applications, with details of age, education, qualifications, experience and career to date, and names of two referees, to the Chief Executive Officer, Kingswood District Council, South View, Staple Hill, Bristol BS16 5PL, not later than 10th June, 1974.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY LONDON

An Industrial Relations SECRETARY is required by a National Employers' Organisation in Westminster.

This is a responsible post, involving contact with Government Departments, allied bodies, members and trade unions; Committee and Conciliation Board work; and the preparation of analyses and reports.

Applicants should be aged 30-40; have a degree in law or economics; experience in Industrial relations; and an aptitude for high quality written work.

Salary in the range £4,000 to £5,000 depending on qualifications and experience.

Applications, giving full details, to the General Secretary,
Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors,
Romney House, Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3DU.

Young Lawyer International Business

To join a large London-based international company's legal team which advises on the legal aspects of all matters affecting the company, such as commercial agreements, licensing, trade regulation, taxation, new markets and acquisitions. Work assignments are on a project basis, involving frequent contact with Directors, international and local management, and overseas lawyers. Travel, principally in Europe, involved. The company operates in a "high-technology" area, has a fast and continued growth and an informal management style which permits the individual to make a significant contribution to decision making. Career progression could be in UK or overseas. Candidates, in their twenties, should ideally have had some commercial experience since qualifying, coupled with an ability to work without close guidance. Conditions include re-location assistance where appropriate. Please telephone (01-625 1844 at any time) or write—in confidence—for information. R. Llewellyn ref. A 5393.

around £5000

MSL Management Consultants in Human Resources Management Selection Limited 17 Stratton Street, London, W1X 6DB. BIRMINGHAM GLASGOW MANCHESTER

Personnel Manager

A large British Group has a vacancy for a personnel manager at the Head Office in London. His initial responsibilities will lie in the fields of senior recruitment and in general training matters, although other personnel experience including labour relations would be useful.

Applications are invited from personnel specialists who are able to show a successful record of personnel management in industry. Preferred age 35. The appointment offers the opportunity to join a small head office team and could lead to either further promotion at the head office or to a senior line post, at Director or Senior Manager level, in a subsidiary company.

Salary negotiable around £5,500 with company car and good conditions of employment. Please apply in the strictest confidence quoting reference number 1574 to Clive & Stokes, 14 Bolton Street, London, W1Y 3JL.

Clive & Stokes
Appointments & Personnel Consultants

procurement manager

Head Wrightson, leaders in the heavy capital goods sector of engineering, with worldwide markets, require a Procurement Manager for their largest subsidiary company, Head Wrightson Teesside Limited. He will be responsible for procurement of equipment and materials to the value of £8m. p.a. Applicants should ideally be aged 35 to 45 with considerable experience of the procurement function.

The company is based in the newly formed Cleveland County, formerly North Yorkshire, within easy reach of pleasant countryside and coast.

This is a senior appointment and it is unlikely that salary will be a restricting factor for the right man. Other attractive benefits include company car, an excellent pension scheme, free life assurance, generous holidays and assistance with removal expenses where appropriate.

Apply in writing to: Group Personnel Manager, Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., The Firsage, Yarm, Yorkshire, quoting reference T/731.

HEAD WRIGHTSON

English Tourist Board

SENIOR DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

The Board seeks a man or woman to head up its small development team. Specific duties will be:

—to contribute towards the determination of regional development priorities and assist in their implementation;
—to manage the day-to-day work of the development team;
—to maintain close contact with planning departments, local authority officers, etc., who are able to influence and/or finance tourist development;
—to supervise feasibility studies and associated surveys for major tourist projects.

The successful applicant will have a sound financial/commercial background, preferably in the tourism/leisure field; the ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing; and be capable of leading and motivating the small development team. Appropriate professional qualifications might be in town and country planning, architecture, civil engineering or accountancy. Preferred age 28-40. Salary range £4,100-£4,800 p.a.

Please apply fully and in confidence to the Director of Development and Regional Liaison 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU by 12 June 1974.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

RESEARCH OFFICER

in the Department of
LAND ECONOMY

Applications are invited for the post of senior research officer in the Department of Land Economy. The appointment will be tenable for three years from 1st October 1974.

The stipend will be within the scale from £3,108-£4,896. The officer appointed will be required to pursue research into environmental problems affecting human activity in developing countries of Africa and Asia and to ascertain the extent of awareness of environmental factors in development planning, particularly with respect to the proprietary structure, distribution and use of land. The officer will also be required to lecture in Urban and Regional Planning to the Cambridge Course on Development Studies and to use his research experience to augment this teaching.

Applicants should be well-grounded in appropriate academic disciplines and should have experience in Urban and Regional Planning in developing countries.

Six copies of applications, naming two referees, should be sent by Monday, 17th June 1974 to the Secretary, Department of Land Economy, 19 St John Street, Cambridge, from whom further details are available.

Applications, giving full details, to the General Secretary, Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, Romney House, Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3DU.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Senior Assistant Solicitor

Applications are invited for a Senior Assistant Solicitor with salary in Principal Officers' Range P.O.2(a). (£4,335-£4,842 per annum inclusive of London Weighting).

The person appointed will be required to assist in the general legal work of a large Outer London Borough within the Conveyancing and Common Law section of the legal division, with particular reference to schemes involving compulsory purchase. He or she will be expected to have the capacity to supervise other solicitors and unqualified staff, and will also be required from time to time to attend evening meetings.

Separation allowance and 75% of removal expenses can be paid, and temporary housing accommodation or 100% housing loan provided, in an approved case. Staff Restaurant. Additional day's leave at Bank Holidays.

Application forms obtainable on written application quoting reference 89 to the undersigned, and must be returned by 10th June, 1974.

R. H. WILLIAMS, Chief Executive and Town Clerk,
TOWN HALL, THE BURROWS, HENDON, NW4 4BG

Administration Department

principal legal officer

A solicitor with several years' admitted experience is required to take day-to-day control of legal services.

A good all-rounder with substantial practical experience of common law and conveyancing is essential. Some advocacy will be available if desired.

Applications giving full personal and career details and the names and addresses of two referees to Director of Administration.

After consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission this post is advertised without restriction but all other things being equal preference will be given to serving Local Government Officers.

Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall, West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 7QP

Deputy Borough Administrative & Legal Officer

The main task for this post will be to take charge of and to develop the Council's Legal Division. At present the Division has 26 established posts (including 6 solicitors); a recent O. & M. review report still to be considered—proposes a further 10 posts. The deputy will have other responsibilities within the Administrative & Legal Service and the opportunity to participate in the Council's developing corporate approach to management and forward planning. Further particulars are contained in the papers accompanying the job description.

Applicants should be solicitors with sound local government experience and management ability.

Salary Scale: £5,031-£5,634—currently under review inclusive of London Weighting.

For job description, further particulars and application forms please write to the Director of Management Services, Town Hall, Erith, Kent DA8 1TL, or telephone 01-303 7777, extension 430. Closing date 10th June, 1974.

Bexley
LONDON BOROUGH

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

MARY SCALE, £5,031-£5,634 to £10,190

ARMED FORCES CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT RESEARCH UNIT

Applications are invited for a temporary appointment of Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Research Unit (ACDRU) of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The post would run from the autumn of 1974 for two years. Salary would be in the region of £5,000, depending on age, qualifications and experience.

This small Unit operates under the general guidance of Head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Department, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Unit under research and study into the longer-term aspects of post-international measures for the limitation and reduction of armaments, and by this means contributes to the formal of official British policy in this field. The post requires a wide range of relevant experience and qualifications, and an interest in both foreign policy generally and strategic issues in particular. It also requires the necessary administrative ability to organise the Unit's work and staff.

The successful candidate is likely to be in his late 30s early 40s.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 22nd June, 1974) write to Personnel Policy Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room 213B, Curtis Building, Victoria Embankment, London SW1A 2JD.

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Conditions are similar to those applying in the State Public Service.

Applications should be submitted in writing to the Agent-General for South Australia, South Australia House, 50 Strand, London WC2N 5LW.

Applications close 7th June, 1974.

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Appointment of

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SALARY SCALE, £9,471 by £240(3)

to £10,191 p.a.

The Hertfordshire County Council invites applications for the appointment of County Education Officer. Applicants should be honours graduates of a British University and should have had teaching and administrative experience at a high level.

The post is advertised on an unrestricted basis with the approval of the Local Government Staff Commission for England but, other things being equal, preference will be given to serving local government officers.

Details of qualifications and previous and present appointments, together with the names of two referees should be sent to the undersigned, from whom further particulars may be obtained (Ref. FP), by 4th June, 1974.

M. J. FLEMING, County Secretary, County Hall, Hertford.

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C1 £1,940-£4,500. The Borough Business Responsibility which will require the Borough Plan and carry out research and policy development. Applications required. Ref. 4/112

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Following consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission, there are no restrictions as to who may apply for the post, but all things being equal preference will be given to serving Local Government officers affected by reorganisation.

Further particulars and application forms obtainable from the County Estates Officer and Valuer, Springfield, Maidstone. Intending applicants can telephone Maidstone 54371, Ext. 577 for further information.

The planning department is situated at Pritcher Town Hall, Bow Road, E1 near to Bow Road District Line Station.

Car allowance available in appropriate cases. An element of staggered working hours is to be expected.

W.R. for further details and Application form to the Head of Management Services, Govt. H.M.S. Public Sector, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1LA. In informal discussion, Committee applications should be received by 16th June, 1974.

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3. Assistant Professor (Senior Lecturer) for the Department of English.
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Assistant Lecturer	LD 3000	LD 3360	LD 60

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The Dept. of Teaching Staff Affairs
General Administration
University of Benghazi
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Appointments

Vacant also
on page 25

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

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Applications are invited for a post of Senior Lecturer in the Social Anthropology and Sociology Divisions of the School of Social Sciences. The appointment will date from 1st October, 1974 or as soon after as may be arranged.

Candidates should possess a research degree in some branch of sociology and have appropriate teaching experience.

Salary will be on the scale £2,112-£2,544 with F.S.S.U.

Application forms and further particulars should be obtained from The Registrar, The New University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland, telephone: Ref. 74/759 to whom completed applications including three referees should be returned not later than 22nd June, 1974.

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Application forms and further particulars should be obtained from the Director, University of London Institute of Archaeology, 35 Gordon Square, WC1H 7JL, by 28th June, 1974.

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Belgium

a Special Report

Three communities' mood of cooperation augurs well

by Roger Berthoud

Belgian governments come and go roughly every 18 months, but so far the country remains prosperous and, remarkably stable. The main threats at the moment are inflation and the progressive decline of the European community.

The new Government of Mr Leo Tindemans wants Belgium to return to the otton of the European in- lationary league. As for the EC, no member state, except possibly Holland, could suffer more if the protectionist barriers were p again in Europe. Self- interest naturally and igny lies at the heart of Belgium's enthusiasm for European unity.

On the domestic political front there are signs of a marked turn for the better in relations between the three communities contained in Dutch-speaking Flanders, French-speaking Wallonia, and bilingual Brussels.

Quite unexpectedly, the general election of March 10, which seemed to change little, has led to an unprecedented degree of cooperation between the "Feder- istic" parties from the three communities, the Volksunie, more of the Federalist par-

the Rassemblement Wallon ties is still seen as a possibil- ity.

Mr Tindemans' minority coalition is generally held to be an interim solution. It has seemed possible that the Rassemblement Wallon, with

its 13 seats in the Lower House, might join it. This would strengthen Wallon

influence, weak in both the Social Christians and Liberal parties. Alternatively,

observers believe that Mr

Tindemans might form a

new government with a

Socialists in the autumn.

We now have a remarkable situation in which the Federalists are unwilling in existence the minority coalition of Social Christians and Liberals which Mr Tindemans formed on April 22. Technically in opposition alongside the Socialists and Communists, the Federalists have in fact been abstaining. Earlier, they came near to joining the government.

The unprecedented negotiations at the castle of Steenokkerzeel on April 20 broke down eventually—but not before the Federalists had shown an extremely encouraging degree of flexibility. Even the taboo topic of the future geographical limits of the Brussels zone, restricted in 1962 to 19 bilingual communes and six more with French-language facili-

ties, had been breached. An enlargement of the Government to bring in one or more of the Federalist par-

ties one should not expect Mr Tindemans necessarily to live up immediately to the demand. The Socialists want mixed schools to replace the existing pattern of state and Roman Catholic schools as soon as possible. The Socialists also resent the fact that things will change the pos-

tions of the Flemish Social Christians. Whereas Catholic schools receive subsidies on a per capita basis and have great freedom in spending the state's money, the spending of state schools is rigidly controlled.

Then there is the problem of reforming the law on abortion—unpopular in the political field is due in large measure to the proposed regional councils. The idea is that they should have some of the same autonomy in the economic field as the cultural councils, composed simply of the parliamentary deputies of the French and Dutch-speaking communities already have in the cultural fields.

Mr Tindemans believes that the regional councils cannot be added to the existing institutions—city councils, urban authorities, provincial councils and Parliament. Instead, the regional councils should replace the provincial councils. He also believes they must have their own revenue. This would give them genuine freedom and avoid clashes with Parliament but it would involve the unpopularity attaching to taxation

among other hardy divided Belgian Cabinet. The Socialists want Prime Minister and eight ministers therewith resigned. A general election seemed the only way out.

The passing of the cumbersome also resent the fact that whereas Catholic schools receive subsidies on a per capita basis and have great freedom in spending the state's money, the spending of state schools is rigidly controlled.

As every opinion poll makes clear, the reputation of Belgium stands low among fellow Europeans. Why is this so? Possibly it is not because of the old linguistic squabbles, the lamentable

driving, the preoccupation with agriculture and other more or less justified clichés. It is more perhaps because of the deplorable appearance of Brussels, suffering at the hands of thoughtless property developers.

Looking up from the old town towards the central railway station and the Westbury Hotel, looking at the Manhattan Centre or the ITT tower, or at the destruction of the pretty squares behind the Avenue des Arts, the visitor easily concludes that in Belgium money reigns supreme with full official blessing. Belgium deserves a better name; and Mr Tindemans can help to give it one.

Cutting crystal at Val St Lambert, one of the country's traditional industries.

More positive leadership and firm decisions needed to clear economic hurdles

by David Cross

Government or no government, the Belgian economy has marched resolutely forward in the past few years. Friendliness towards foreign investors and an export drive helped by the worldwide economic boom of the past decade have been sufficient to ensure prosperity despite the weak economic direction provided by a succession of shaky coalitions.

But it has become clear during recent weeks that a more positive political leadership will be required in the future to steer the country safely through the uncertainties of inflation and a predicted slackening in the rate of economic expansion.

One of the first signs of a possible end to the customary Belgian method of resorting to compromise,

which has effectively meant continually putting off decisions in the hope that any given problem will finally disappear, appeared as a result of the energy crisis.

After successfully overcoming the initial Arab boycott, the country's oil supplies virtually came to a halt in a price dispute between the Government and the international oil companies. The inability of the caretaker Government, which has run the country for most of the first part of this year, to reach a swift decision was at the root of the trouble.

With prices threatening to rise by at least 10 per cent (inflation could be as high as 15 per cent if the increases recorded in the first months of the year are repeated throughout 1974) and fears of a further spread of unemployment, some firm decisions will have to be

taken fairly quickly. The general public, at least, have taken to heart the economic threats confronting the country. Recent opinion polls have shown that concern about inflation and unemployment is their primary preoccupation. Political leaders, too, have voiced their disquiet on more than one occasion. But it remains to be seen whether the recently appointed minority government of Social Christians and Liberals under the leadership of Mr Leo Tindemans, the Prime Minister, will have sufficient strength to put into force some of the more unpopular economic decisions required.

Compared with the economic problems of several of the member states of the European Community, however, those facing Belgium are by no means dire. The impact of the past couple of years, when the country enjoyed a healthy balance of payments and a high level of industrial activity, will continue to have beneficial repercussions for the next few months at least.

The country's structural surpluses on current account,

as a recent study carried out by the Banque de Bruxelles

points out, dates from the beginning of the 1970s, when exports began to surge ahead of imports. The growth of exports was

directly related to the high level of industrial investment carried out in Belgium since the early 1960s, which resulted in setting up a wide variety of technologically advanced units.

Last year's boom figures speak for themselves. The balance of payments of the Belgo-Luxembourg economic union showed a record surplus of plus of 36,800m Belgian

francs (labour £368m). This reached a peak during the last quarter of 1972, slightly ahead of current price increases. But

Belgium's inflation rate was still well below those of most other EEC countries and compared favourably with the 7.4 per cent of West Germany and the 7.9 per cent of The Netherlands.

Because of the structural surplus the increased cost of oil imports should pose no insuperable problems for Belgium's balance of payments. According to recent estimates of the Banque de Bruxelles, the direct and indirect effects of the rise in oil prices will result in a deterioration in the trade balance of between 20,000m and 40,000m francs this year.

Thus, if the current account surplus will be much reduced, it is unlikely to be transformed into a deficit, and indeed a surplus of some 10,000m francs may

with wage costs at 8 per cent remain", the bank way through to the ordinary retail prices of a wide range of goods (wage increases are directly linked to the retail price index in Belgium).

However, as the European Commission pointed out in its latest quarterly report on the economic situation in the EEC, the slackening of the world demand and the rise in import prices resulting from the oil crisis is bound to affect economic growth this year. Forecasts of a growth in gross national product of between 3 and 4 per cent, while more optimistic than earlier predictions of zero growth, are lower than the 6 per cent increase in 1973 and the 5.4 per cent rise in 1972.

But for both the Commission and the Banque de Bruxelles one of the main problems confronting the Belgian economy is the persistent upward price-wage movement. If this continues as recommended by the Commission, with taking care to maintain it below its productive potential. In the budgetary sector it suggests reductions on additional expenditures, with reallocations of resources, new investments in energy

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Cliché C.G.T.
Brussels: Grand'Place

Limburg: rural region wants its mines

by Margot Lyon

Will the Campine coalmines stay open, or will they not? That is the burning question in the Limburg province, where mining still dominates despite the recent rapid progress in setting up other industries. Until the 1920s this Flemish region lived rooted in its rural Catholic traditions, a beautiful backwater from the heat and scrub of its north to the cherry and apple orchards of Salm Truiden in the south.

Genk, a few miles from the provincial capital, Hasselt, was a moorland village until its coal was exploited after the First World War.

In 1974 Genk has 60,000 inhabitants, a third of whom are immigrant miners and their families. Surprisingly much of it is still quite beautiful. The miners' houses round the Wetershei and Winterberg pits form almost a garden suburb—utterly different from the Coronation Streets of South Lancashire or of Belgium's southern coalfields around Liège and Mons.

The Campine (Kempen in Flemish Dutch) has seven mines that produce high-grade coking coal and power-station "matty". But they are deep, the plant is new outwards and production is unsound. Already by

1959 the European Coal and Steel Community was putting pressure on Belgium to phase out the mines for eventual closure. Since then all the big collieries have closed,

but the Campine still pro-

duces about 15 per cent of the country's energy needs. For the rest, Belgium imports Polish and American coal, that we have entered a year to exploit.

An official of the Socialist Mineworkers' Federation told me that because of inflation the miners will expect a new wage increase up to 10 per cent. He acknowledged that this might bring subsidies to the point where the state could no longer pay.

"The great question now," he said, "is whether the Government attaches more

importance to coal costs or

to security of supply, now

Polish and American coal,

we have entered a

year to exploit.

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Threat of schools' war is in the air again

Margot Lyon
Belgian schools question used bloody riots in the 50s until a schools' pact was signed in 1958. The pact is still in force. Its official renewal is due but arguments over terms of a new pact has claimed some of the old issues and was one of the reasons for the Government's premature downfall in January.

Inevitably the language question is part of the matter lies the rivalry between the state and the powerful but vulnerable non-Catholic schools. Additionally there have been more Catholic than lay schools at every level in Belgium—primary, secondary, teachers' training and technical.

Belgian law gives parents freedom to choose whether they want a religious or lay education for their children and most have always opted for the Catholic schools. Subsequently these schools

have been subsidized from state funds, to a degree that sounds rather French Catholic neighbour admires and envies. But existed. Most Catholic teachers were members of religious orders whose salaries were mostly ploughed back into the funds of the order.

demanded the right to interfere in schools. Each side into the funds of the order.

has always been intensely and used to provide buildings and amenities often superior to those at state schools.

The pact achieved social peace, though it was expensive. It led to a proliferation of schools, especially new state schools. It also became an instrument of the language war, since every school had to teach solely in the language of its region. If it did not, it received subsidies and its pupils' diplomas were not recognized even if the school followed the correct grammar.

The state was required to ensure that a school of the other national tongue could be taught as a foreign language from the fifth year of roughly five kilometers of primary school, about the state age of 18. In Flanders this was also to provide its own practice is almost unanimously in favour of French, while in school buildings built not in favour of French, while in many

lic schools to the age of 18 laymen and women who take to cross the boundary into a home their full past. Last year the state university, and vice versa. As a critic wrote, schools to float building in the Brussels Le loans backed by government, it gives each teacher an interest, with the rest according to the diplomas made up by the state.

Apart from the language question, there are other complexities. The nine provinces of Belgium and all the towns also have the right to provide schools at any level, with money from provincial taxes or local rates, and a state subsidy. They too are jealous of their autonomy and privileges. Their schools are officially neutral but are in fact Catholic in strongly Catholic areas.

Indeed the strands of Belgian education—Catholic or "free", state or "official", provincial or communal—have been overlapping and interlocking, clumsy administration. Into the bargain Brussels has become an important special case as the French-speakers of the city have overflowed into surrounding Flemish communes and have demanded French-language schools for their children.

The system, though complex, is not fluid. It is hard for a child educated in Catho-

lic schools to the age of 18

to make up by the state.

got locally when he was 20. There are other major grievances such as the lack of funds for non-teaching staff in Catholic schools. In addition the numbers of children in these schools are falling as Catholic parents have fewer children. As the idea of pluralist schools falls, subsidies are given for each child, this cuts down the number of schools and a minority of schools' resources and leads left-wing Catholics. "It is a to unseemly canvassing for hope of finding each other recruits.

beyond our divisions". Left-wingers were dis-

tressed.

Louvain professor told appointed that the pluralist

present inbreeding".

It recent elections, The Soci-

ety would also rationalize

expenditure, but it is seen as

and the present coalition led

a socialist attempt to absorb

by Mr Leo Timmermans,

the Catholic school system.

Flemish Catholic Premier, is

Government,

and a number of Catholic

organizations have come out

probably too insecure to risk

against the idea, firmly re-

jecting, in the words of the

issue.

The danger is the school

Confederation of Parents".

"all men

issue might arise just the

same because of its intrinsic

importance. In the past, gov-

ernments have bought their

children.

However, the Gov-

ernment

is committed to modernizing

way out of social troubles

the pact. Over the years, the picture has changed. The money to spare, but less

teaching orders have almost disappeared so that Catholic and reconciling through

schools are staffed by pluralism may be a mirage.

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JEP/16/74

Young diplomat drew life from Spaak

by Roger Berthoud

In the Foreign Ministry of the EEC Nine there is, to my knowledge, no single official with quite the same degree of influence and ubiquity as the Vicomte Etienne Davignon, Director-General for Political Affairs at the Belgian Foreign Ministry.

Stevie Davignon, as he is known to his many friends, is no *eminent grise*. That would suggest old age and a preference for the background, which is wholly alien to him. Davignon is still young—only 42 next October. His place is in the centre of the European stage, and he enjoys it.

Indeed, whether he is taking the chair at a meeting of the "Davignon" Committee, composed of political directors of the Nine, or playing chairman and host to the energy group sired by the Washington energy conference in February, it is the relish which he brings to the task that strikes his colleagues. As one remarked:

"He is the Eddie Merckx of international diplomacy" [a reference to Belgium's world cycling champion]; a round peg in a round hole.

It is no doubt fortuitous that Belgium was in the chair of the EEC Council of Ministers after the 1969 summit conference at The Hague had called for a report on the first steps that should be taken towards political cooperation in the European Community. The task therefore fell to

Spaak. It is certain not fortuitous that the recommendations of the resulting Davignon report have proved so eminently sensible and politically realistic. Common sense was one of the characteristics Davignon admired most in the lodestar of his professional life—the late Foreign Minister of Belgium and European founding father, Paul-Henri Spaak.

Without Spaak's influence the young Davignon would almost certainly not have remained a diplomat. Although his grandfather had been Belgium's Foreign Minister between 1909 and 1913, and his father ended a distinguished diplomatic career as Ambassador to Berlin from 1936 to 1940, Etienne Davignon felt that the days of genuine diplomacy were nearly over.

But to please his father, of whom he was very fond, the young law graduate of Louvain University, who had been born in Budapest and brought up in Poland, Germany and Switzerland as well as Belgium, agreed to do a trial stint in the Foreign Ministry.

The British changed their minds and tried to come in, but the

He was soon assigned to keep an eye on the Belgian Congo, then basically covered by the now defunct Colonial Ministry. Shortly afterwards began the precipitate negotiations for Congolese independence. Davignon inevitably became involved. He happened to be in the Congo when independence was granted in 1960. A few days later chaos broke loose. The already indispensable young diplomat stayed on, and found himself working with Robert Rothschild, then deputy head of mission in Léopoldville, now ambassador in London.

When Rothschild subsequently became *Chef de Cabinet* to Spaak he called in Davignon as a specialist on Congolese problems. Less than three years later Davignon had risen to be head of the Minister's private office at the age of 32. When Spaak left Belgian politics in 1965 he adapted himself smoothly to the more different style of Pierre Harmel. In 1966 he took over as head of the political affairs department with the rank of ambassador.

To anyone talking to him now it is clear that working for Spaak was the crucial period in his adult life. It was, he says, an extraordinary experience. There was a great deal of affection between the statesman and his young aide, whose eye for the essential and gift for crisply summing up a complicated situation saved so much tedious paperwork.

Davignon speaks eloquently of the remarkable combination of skill, patience and common sense. "He was a man of extraordinary common sense, never interested in something purely optical nor in grand statements. Any decision had to bring him closer to your objectives. He was very practical. That was why the Treaty of Rome happened" [Spaak was the driving force behind the drafting committee].

Spaak believed that European unity had to start with something practical, which made a clear difference to life. Davignon believes that the European Community achieved this by greatly raising prosperity and creating the consumer's choice in a tariff-free zone. The expectation of the EEC's founding fathers was that moves towards political unity would be a natural consequence of this economic integration.

What no one expected was that General de Gaulle would come back to power, putting the development towards political unity effectively into the freezer. The British changed their minds and tried to come in, but the



Vicomte Etienne Davignon, the Director-General for Political Affairs at the Belgian Foreign Ministry.

general blocked them.

"This was the explanation of the formidable antagonism between de Gaulle and Spaak," Davignon recalled. "Spaak saw him taking the EEC out of the line he had hoped for." Progress had to be made somewhere to stop the whole machine grinding to a halt; the technical aspects of the EEC were the only area where forward movement was possible.

Spaak saw that it would be very difficult to come back to things which would return Europe to public interest.

The situation is now to some extent reversed: there is a possibility of the Community itself being endangered by protectionist trade measures on the Italian model and of the emphasis switching to political cooperation. Because the interests of the smaller countries are likely to go to the wall in inter-governmental contacts, countries such as Belgium and Holland are passionately defending the EEC's institutions. Only when decisions are taken in an institutional forum do the small countries which lack power have a measure to the sound recommendations of the Davignon report.

not that the big countries will gang up on the small ones but that their own disagreements will paralyse the Community.

Davignon sees no possibility of real political co-operation without economic and commercial ties. It is indeed the strength of the EEC as a unified market of 250 million consumers that gives it what little political weight it has in the world at present. Political cooperation must be firmly rooted in the economic benefits derived from EEC membership, he believes.

"You can alter the priorities, but there is no alternative to the basis."

He sees no need for a political secretary at the present stage of political cooperation. The need will come, he thinks, when a single representative of the Nine is acting for the others on the basis of a coherent policy. That day is not imminent. But meanwhile co-operation is working very well in such forums as the Geneva conference on security and cooperation in Europe—thanks in good measure to the sound recommendations of the Davignon report.

Woman writer is most gifted in French school

by Marnix Gijzen

The fast-changing aspects of social life in the past 50 years have had a deep influence on writing in Flanders. The perennial fascination with rural life, that hampered the growth of Flemish letters until 1920 has been replaced by a more European and cosmopolitan view of the world. American influence has been felt in the work of younger writers who succumbed to the lure of Hemingway's cult of the human but who profited by his economical style.

The weakness for dialect and localisms disappeared, the margin between Dutch and Flemish literature diminished to the point of being scarcely noticeable. The subject matter also changed. The idyllic, sugary or slightly comic picture of life in the villages gave way to the psychological study of middle-class and urban society. On the other hand, the voice of the proletariat became audible. An entirely new element is the reflection of the novelists on Belgian recent colonial past and responsibility.

The grand old man of the generation born before 1900 is undoubtedly Gerard Wallerius (born 1898), the most outstanding writer of his time. His numerous novels liberated Flemish letters from narrow provincialism and made him akin to the best Scandinavian story-tellers.

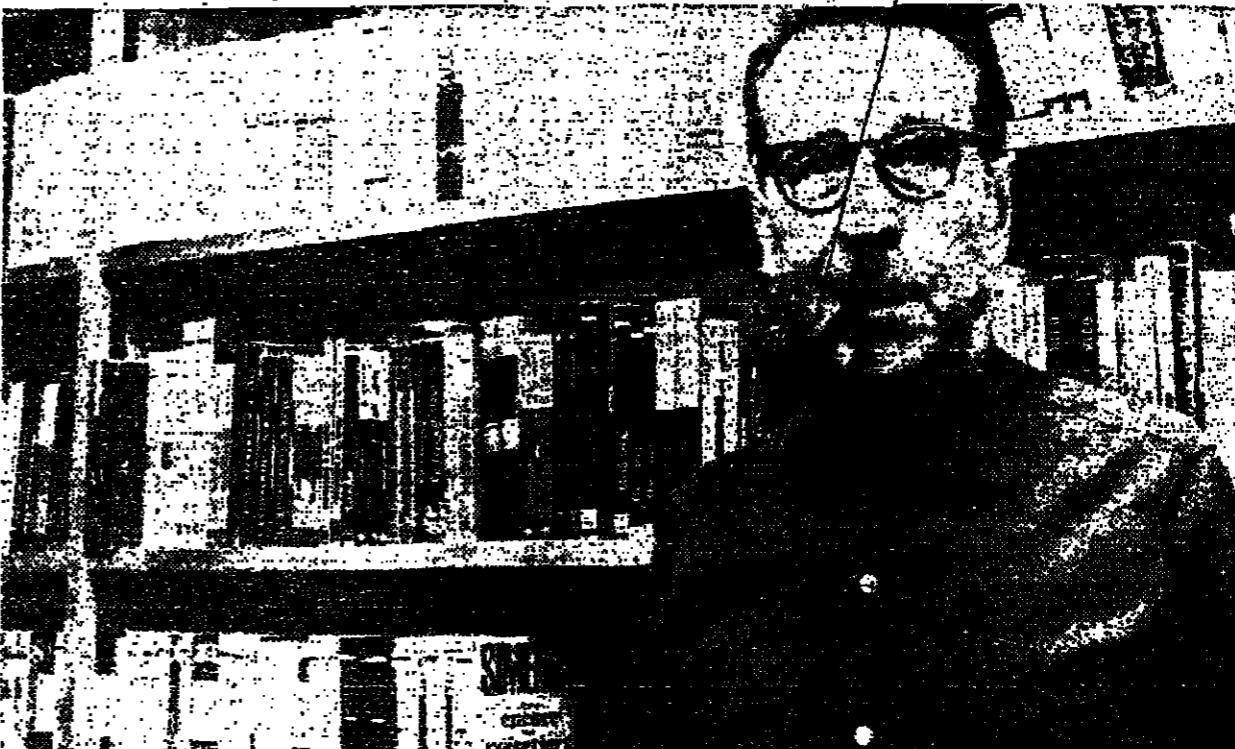
L. P. Boon (born 1912) expresses the standpoint of the anarchistic proletariats. He is profuse but commiserates with the humblest among men; he has the rare gift of touching the heart of his readers and of inciting them to social indignation if not to revolt.

A good poet, Hugo Claus (born 1929), is also a novelist of note but above all an experimental playwright whose best plays reach a European audience. Although the theatrical career of Jozef Van Hoecke (born 1922) is sparse, it is significant and durable.

The two great novels of Jef Geeraerts (born 1930), *Gangrene I and II*, as well as several shorter works, are derived from his experiences as a territorial agent in the former Congo. He enjoys physical existence—love and war—with tremendous gusto. His novels are intensely erotic but he avoids vulgarity through a Diomysian lyricism. His torrential style is unique in the Low Countries.

The changing scene has not affected French authors as it did their Flemish colleagues. Their tradition was much more urban and intellectual. One hesitates to claim Henry Michaux (born 1896) and Paul Spaak (born 1906) as precursors to the present Flemish writers. Theirs is a tradition of the *bourgeois et facile principe*.

Johan Daisne (born 1912) and his faithful disciple Hubert Lampo (born 1920)



Georges Simenon, "the Balzac of our age" and creator of Maigret, has never repudiated his Belgian origins.

and on Simone de Beauvoir, who has acquired an invariable fame in Belgian letters can be called her equal. Her talented daughter, Françoise Miller-Joris (aged about 40), has become a member of the Goncourt circle. All her novels appeared in American translation. The best of his works is *Shakespeare ou la vie de l'aventure*.

Charles Berzin (b. 1919), the author of a remarkable novel, is essentially a playwright, a bawdy and ribald farceur.

A lone wolf in Belgian letters is the banker, Daniel Gille (born 1917). He has written three remarkable biographies on Tolstoy, his play *La Mat d'Ephe*, which Coccinelle in this field he is called "a brilliant scholar-chaplain". His novels *Jetons de présence* and *Le coupon 44* deal with economic cooperation during the last war. Other novels refer with delight to his youth in Antwerp.

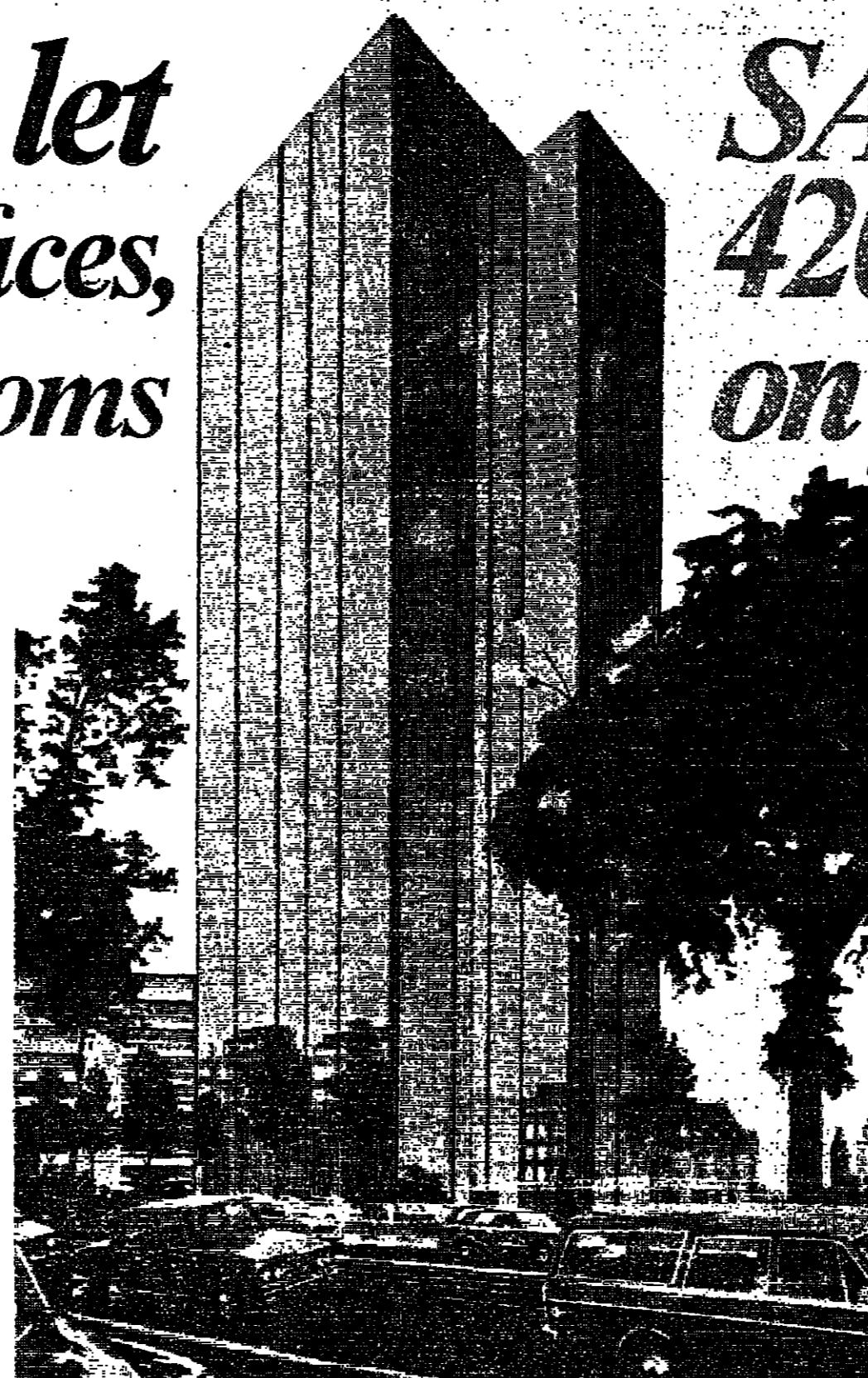
The most gifted author among French-writing Belgians is Suzanne Lilar (aged about 60). Among her plays, *Le Burundier* stands out. She writes the eternal seductress Jeanne from the female viewpoint, with deep understanding and unabashed admiration. It is, however, as an essayist that she acquired a universal reputation.

Her magnum opus is undoubtedly *Le Couple*, a penetrating study of human relationships in which she places herself as a "realist" of "romanticism".

It is a striking characteristic of French literature in Belgium that most of the significant authors prefer to write in English translation, in London, in New York, in Paris, in Amsterdam, etc. *Le couple* is published in New York by Serge Paul Willems (born 1913).

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LOCAL INTERESTS

extremely hard to know just where widespread corruption is in government: the number of final prosecutions is a measure not so much of its extent as of the police resources which be devoted to dealing with it.

There have been enough cases, and evidence of corruption, to justify considerable anxiety and to undermine public confidence. Confidence will not be restored without far more facts and evident safeguards: this has become one of the more important tasks in British public life unless action is taken now. It will be all too easy for men and corruption to feed each other. The report of the Redcliffe-Maud committee, published yesterday, is the way without providing comprehensive directions.

puts forward a number of able proposals in three particular areas: tightening the rules induct, in the broadest sense, members and officials; varying council procedures; strengthening the powers of police in investigation. The committee would provide more specific guidelines in a variety of ways: a national code of conduct for all councillors; a committee register, open to inspection by any elector in the area, financial interests of councillors; fuller disclosure of results at meetings; and strictures both on the private & undertaken by local authority employees and on the appointment they could accept two years after their retirement. In addition, the use private gain of information sived through membership or employment in a local authority should be made a criminal offence, which would be both a critical deterrent and a strong indication of the importance attached by society to stamping this practice.

Together these measures would much to reduce that grey area where it is not quite clear, even the person concerned, whether not his behaviour is correct. There are more cases than is often perceived of people going into government with the best of motives and then slipping almost perceptibly into corrupt practices because "everybody does it".

so there cannot be anything wrong in it". But while it is essential to draw a distinct line as possible between the proper and the improper, there will still be people who choose quite deliberately to go on the wrong side. How can they be spotted?

The committee suggest that the internal organization of the new authorities under the reorganized system of local government should make it easier to pick out malpractices, and it makes further proposals for more effective internal monitoring and for the handling of complaints. All that is useful, but no more. The value of such arrangements would depend both upon the willingness of councils to expose their own culprits and upon those culprits leaving the evidence in the record of the council's proceedings. The inexperienced may do so: the more practised will take greater care. That is why more importance should be attached to the strengthening of police powers in investigation.

The report suggests that they should be able to examine the financial records of individuals or organizations who are suspected of having a corrupt relationship with anyone in a local authority, but only "on application by the Director of Public Prosecutions to a judge of the High Court... on proof of reasonable grounds for suspecting a corrupt act".

This recommendation will no doubt be contentious, as are all proposals for increasing police powers. But his one is justified. To examine the books of whoever is paying the bribe is often the only way of proving corruption. The need is great and the proposed safeguard should be adequate protection against abuse. But the police can in practice only investigate those cases of corruption which are brought to them. The weakness of this report is that while it indicates how councils, their members and employees can better discipline themselves, and how the police can deal better with those cases which are drawn to their notice, it holds out little hope that the police will ever get to hear of many more cases than they do at the moment. That would not matter if one could hope that improved self-discipline would be enough, but to suppose that would be naive.

It was to fill this gap in the public defences against corruption in local government that *The Times* recommended in its evidence to the committee the creation of a local government inspectorate under the control of central government and the implementation of the proposal in the Malaboy report of 1967 on the staffing of local authorities that "mobility of officers between local authorities and other branches of the public sector should be encouraged". The two suggestions are linked. The people who are most often in a position to know, or to have reasonable suspicions, that something is amiss in a particular authority are the senior or middle-ranking officials. But it takes great courage, and exceptional self-sacrifice, under present circumstances for a man to speak out in mid career and put his livelihood and the welfare of his family in jeopardy—especially when he is not really sure that his suspicions are justified.

What is required is some independent, authoritative person to whom a local official can confide his anxieties, and through whom these anxieties could if necessary be passed on either for police investigation or for some other form of inquiry. It is also necessary to be able to offer the beleaguered official another opening in his career so that he need not fear victimization by his present masters.

A local government inspectorate and the Malaboy recommendation would together meet those needs, as well as contributing to the more efficient administration of local government. They have not found favour with the Redcliffe-Maud committee. That would not matter if it were offering other persuasive means of filling the gap. But it is not. The report makes it clear that the local ombudsman will be so hedged round with restrictions that they cannot meet this particular need. Nor is there any reason to suppose that the district auditor will do so in practice, whatever might be suggested in theory. The most that can be expected as a general rule is that he will pick up any hint provided in the council records. Something more will be required before the public can be satisfied that every reasonable precaution has been taken to preserve the integrity of local government.

DISMANTLING AN EMPIRE

e provisional Portuguese government has lost no time demonstrating that it is wholly committed to dismantling the Portuguese empire in Africa and possibly elsewhere. Dr Soares has tacitly given the assurance that "we will be decolonization" and neo-colonialism". That state it would seem to rule out a si-federal political relation such as General Spinoza finally suggested—as sugar, it is now, to coat the pill of his nation that the struggle in Africa could not be won by military means.

Decolonialism is a dirty word in Africa, and would certainly be abated by African liberation movements with neo-colonialism.

Increasing in Beira this week, Antonio de Almeida Santos urged them that they would be governed by their thens, a phrase that suggests Lisbon is resigned to an independent black, and perhaps Euro-controlled, government.

Nevertheless, dismantling great

empires peacefully is never an

easy thing to do. The roots of

tugue's presence go deep, and

not be ignored by any new

one, however, nationalistic

is reason to think that the

visional government would

itate to scrap plans drawn up

by the junta on behalf of

Armed Forces Movement for

orderly transition over a

reasonable period, and varied in

ce to suit local conditions.

In Mozambique the intention is

discuss with Frelimo an early

and peaceful transition.

Students and free speech

on Professor J. A. Rex

I happen to be a signatory of the United Nations Expert Declaration on Nature of Race and Race Prejudice. I am deemed undesirable as an inhabitant of Britain in Rhodesia. I have spent my life fighting racism in South Africa and in what were formerly British colonies in Africa.

In Britain I have been in the forefront of the campaign against racial discrimination, particularly in the allocation of council houses. In recent years I have had every opportunity available to speak in print and on television and radio to speak out against Mr Powell and his like in politics and against those like Eysenck who have produced academically unconvincing books which can be used to support old-fashioned biologically based racial theory.

Having said all that and hopefully having established my credentials as committed and politically active anti-racist, I also feel that it is my duty at this time as an academic in the field of the sociology of race relations to speak out very clearly against the suppression of freedom of speech which some of our students are seeking to impose on their unions and sometimes on their lecturers.

Very few of those who are now campaigning for banning speakers have taken any part at all in recent

by historical, cultural and linguistic links. They would also have time to come to terms with their neighbours, and develop an internal regime that avoids the excesses of black racialism—which a military conquest by Frelimo might not.

The chances are, on British experience, that the timetable would be condensed and the transfer of power less controlled, certainly if the referendum showed Frelimo to be dominant. It would be too long for Guinea. But already as expected the Cape Verde islands will complicate the Guinea talks, soon to open in London. The liberation movement, PAIGC, though it calls itself the party for the independence of Guinea and Cape Verde, has little more claim to them than Nigeria would have to St Helena. As the islands have a naval base, Portugal has obligations to NATO that conflict with the tenets of non-aligned pan-Africanism. To get possession of them, PAIGC will presumably have at least to agree to an orderly transition, and possibly accept some such solution as was reached by Britain in Cyprus by the reservation of areas of British sovereignty.

The quicker the African leaders agree to talk about these practicalities, and end the shooting wars, the better. It must be hoped that the atmosphere of London, where constitutional conferences have overcome so many problems in the creation of new states in Africa and elsewhere, will be conducive to compromise and the start of new understandings.

children. There is, unfortunately, no machinery for ensuring that parents actually do so and there is much evidence that in many cases they do not.

Sometimes this is because they have not really understood that by withholding these contributions they make their children worse off than those from poorer homes who receive the standard maintenance grant in full. Sometimes they feel that they simply cannot afford to, and many students are reluctant to request their parents to pay the contribution when they can see that their parents are not living in the lap of luxury. It puts them in an invidious and embarrassing situation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN REX,
Department of Sociology,
University of Warwick,
Coventry,
Warwickshire.
May 22.

Student grants

From Professor Walter Elkan

Sir, The proposed 25 per cent increase in expenditure on students' maintenance grants will make some students better off, but not all. According to the figures quoted by your Education Correspondent, local education authorities will be paying £200 million a year and parents whose incomes exceed a certain minimum will be expected to contribute £63 million direct to their

children. There is, unfortunately, no machinery for ensuring that parents actually do so and there is much evidence that in many cases they do not.

For my part I felt as I watched Mr Guinness being screamed down at Portsmouth that the kind of forces of unreason which I opposed in South Africa and in what were formerly British colonies in Africa.

In Britain I have been in the forefront of the campaign against racial discrimination, particularly in the allocation of council houses. In recent years I have had every opportunity available to speak in print and on television and radio to speak out against Mr Powell and his like in politics and against those like Eysenck who have produced academically unconvincing books which can be used to support old-fashioned biologically based racial theory.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER ELKAN,
University of Durham,
Department of Economics,
23/26 Old Elvet, Durham.
May 16.

Treatment of young offenders

From Mrs V. A. Limont

Sir, The principle of "treating" offenders rather than of "punishing" them is desirable, but the recommendation of the Home Secretary's Advisory Council on the Penal System that commitment to borstal or detention centre be replaced by an order for custody and control are to be welcomed with caution.

Such theories, introduced without adequate financial resources, could lead to the chaos which now seems to prevail in the treatment of juvenile offenders. In 1969 the Children and Young Persons Act introduced treatment of juveniles by way of the care order and removed the power of the juvenile courts to commit them to approved school.

Unfortunately, successive governments have been unable to provide the buildings and social workers required to make the scheme effective and as a result it is falling into disrepute, and juveniles remain at home awaiting assessment for many months after their court appearance.

Before treatment can begin, it is necessary to assess the needs of all adults under 21 who would otherwise have received custodial sentence, surely the consequences would be grave.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE LIMONT,
43 Grange Side,
Liverpool.

From Mr Nicholas Hinton

Sir, The Advisory Council on the Penal System's Report on Young Adult Offenders and Mr Jenkins's first speech on penal matters since his return to the Home Office

two major pronouncements which markedly reinforce the policy of the Home Office to cut the prison population by providing more non-custodial methods. Predictably and understandably the probation service expresses concern.

During the last 10 years the service has had to extend its work load out of all recognition. To their

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Effect of British policies in Ulster

From the Reverend R. T. Beckwith

Sir, As the situation in Ireland daily grows worse, and civil war gets perceptibly nearer, the events there seem to be viewed by most politicians in England with grieved surprise, if not with angry impatience. Surely the majority in Ireland wants peace, they ask. Surely people there can appreciate the restraint and impartiality with which Britain has behaved, and the improvements which its policy has brought about? Why, then, are they still dissatisfied?

If the Young Adult Offenders Report is implemented different and additional duties will fall to the service, and the implications? Mr Jenkins's speech would give probation officers the responsibility not only for a massive increase in non-custodial facilities, but also for gaining the cooperation and understanding of a frequently intolerant community.

If the probation service is to be the agency which is to carry these vast and varied duties, it is essential that the service should have access to a far wider range of resources than is now possible. Accommodation from hostels to permanent flats, employment facilities, remedial and educational opportunities, are among the resources that would become necessary on a country-wide basis.

To achieve this the probation service needs to be given new and broader terms of reference, perhaps within the overall context of an agency concerned with the prevention of crime. The success of such an agency will depend ultimately on its links with the community which underlies the importance of including local and national voluntary organizations in the movement towards extending alternatives to prison.

Failure to generate the community's support and failure to provide a broad enough context for the work of a renewed probation service can only lead to the backlash of an increase in the prison population at a social and financial cost we cannot afford.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON,
Director, National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders,
125 Kennington Park Road, SE11.

Salary levels: a spurious equality

From Mr John E. M. Moore, Conservative MP for Croydon Central

Sir, The politics of envy are destroying our country. The economic nonsense of Mr Grimond (May 20) and his egalitarian fellow travellers will beggar us all.

A man does not "earn" £34,000 a year. He pays £21,771.81 to his fellow citizens in taxes. A man "earning" £2,000 a year pays £233.31 in taxes to his fellow citizens.

What sort of society pillars the former while pandering to the latter? A society which may be losing its reason while finding instead emotional satisfaction in its rapid decline into poverty; satisfaction because that poverty is accompanied by a spurious sense of equality.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN E. M. MOORE,
House of Commons.
May 23.

From Mr Anthony Hunt

Sir, The arguments advanced by your correspondents in the debate on salaries and national wealth demonstrate highly developed skills in advocacy and an under-nourished sense of natural justice.

Complex economic arguments should not be used to mask one fundamental fact: there are groups of people in our society who are inadequately housed, clothed and fed. There are others who seem to be demanding too large a share of the world's goods and services. Who

really will pay £1,050 for a fairer December (page 9 of yesterday's *Times*)? What is the take-home pay of a nurse or a bus driver?

This juxtaposition may be taken by many as a cue for further economic sophistry: but then it took an innocent to realize that the emperor was not wearing any clothes.

Yours etc,

ANTHONY HUNT,
45 Vernon Avenue,
Woolton, Liverpool,
Merseyside,
May 22.

From Mr I. H. Maxwell

Sir, As one who shares the views expressed by Mr Grimond, I would say that I have never thought that a reduction in top salaries would do much to improve the lot of the lower paid. Nor, I am sure, does Mr Grimond. Those who, like Mr Withers (May 22), object to the position on this ground miss the point of the argument.

The problem is one of appearance rather than substance. It is not in itself very harmful that a small minority should enjoy largely undeserved advantages in pay and kind while the majority is limited to the less fruitful products of its own direct exertions. The harm arises when the discrepancies begin to jeopardize the goodwill and morale by which we are all of us sustained.

So obvious have these discrepancies now become that it is unrealistic to suppose that our

traditional probation duties have been added prison after-care, prison welfare, parole, matrimonial work, and responsibility for alternatives to custody such as community service, day training centres and probation hostels.

If the Young Adult Offenders Report is implemented different and additional duties will fall to the service, and the implications? Mr Jenkins's speech would give probation officers the responsibility not only for a massive increase in non-custodial facilities, but also for gaining the cooperation and understanding of a frequently intolerant community.

Such theories, introduced without adequate financial resources, could lead to the chaos which now seems to prevail in the treatment of juvenile offenders. In 1969 the Children and Young Persons Act introduced treatment of juveniles by way of the care order and removed the power of the juvenile courts to commit them to approved school.

Unfortunately, successive governments have been unable to provide the buildings and social workers required to make the scheme effective and as a result it is falling into disrepute, and juveniles remain at home awaiting assessment for many months after their court appearance.

Before treatment can begin, it is necessary to assess the needs of all adults under 21 who would otherwise have received custodial sentence, surely the consequences would be grave.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE LIMONT,
43 Grange Side,
Liverpool.

From Mr Nicholas Hinton

Sir, The Duke of Bedford's letter (May 20) regarding the possible plight of stately home owners should be brought home to the politicians before it is too late.

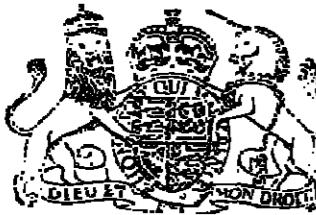
It has been a long established practice where certain family treasures important to the house are exempt from death duties. I believe that in this latter way are we likely in this country to get management which will solve the great problem mentioned by your correspondent, Mr Dore, in his letter (May 22), and thus truly merit the take-home pay it may receive.

Yours faithfully,
I. H. MAXWELL,
1 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
May 22.

From Mr G. Teeling-Smith

Sir, Mr Grimond's letter and the replies to it have exposed an underlying danger which is becoming increasingly worrying in Britain. This is the general acceptance that goods or services sold in the market place can in some meaningful way be "worth" something different from what is actually paid for them.

Within the Health Service, some welfare economists have recently argued in favour of a concept known as "shadow pricing". Because of their scarcity, we were told at a recent symposium, neurosurgeons' time should be "shadow priced" at three or four times what they were actually paid in order to arrive at a "correct" economic cost for the operations which they performed. What these economists failed to recognize was that, because skilled labour is an international commodity, managers of the NHS neurosurgeons had voted with the rest of the profession in favour of a situation where their value was recognized in terms



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 23: The Lord Shackleton had an audience in the Queen's Drawing Room when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

His Excellency Dr Manuel Norberto José de Anchorena was received in audience by the Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Argentina to the Duke of St. James.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Señor Rafael Maximino Govindarajah (Minister Plenipotentiary), Rear-Admiral Ricardo Gómez (Naval Attaché), Comandante Jorge A. V. Vicente (Air Military Attaché), Señor Antonio E. Seward (Counselor Economic and Commercial Affairs), Señor Hugo F. Manzana (Counselor General Affairs), Señor Alberto Pinochet (First Secretary, Consular Affairs), Señor Gabriel Grandi (Press Secretary) and Señor

Horacio R. Basso (Second Secretary).

Señora de Anchorena had the honour of being received by the Queen.

Sir Thomas Brimelow (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphreys had the honour of relinquishing his appointment as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Strike Command, and upon his appointment as Chief of the Air Staff and Air Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty.

General Sir Cecil Blunker had the honour of being received by the Queen upon his appointment as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Strike Command, and upon his appointment as Chief of the Air Staff and Air Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty.

The Queen, as Patron of King George's Jubilee Trust, and the Duke of Edinburgh were present at the Service of Thanksgiving given by the Administrative Council of the Trust in Merchant Taylors' Hall.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London and Sir Peter Studd (Vice-Chairman of the Trust and Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company).

The Marchioness of Aberavon, Mr. William Heseltine, Senator Leader, Peter Beer and Captain Peter Fletcher were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning presented the Design Trophy for the 1973 Commercial Union Assurance Cup to Captain L. St. Helens, Under-Secretary of State, London.

Mrs Rowena Erassey was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 23: The Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Commander of the Women's Royal Air Force, today visited RAF Swanton Morley, Norfolk.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

Prince Richard of Gloucester today arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight from Germany.

His Royal Highness this evening was guest of honour at a dinner given by the VC and GC Association at the Cafe Royal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

May 23: The Duke of Kent today visited the factories of Rediffon Limited at Crawley.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent was entertained this evening by the Bailiff of Guernsey at the Royal Hotel, St Peter Port. Her Royal Highness subsequently named the Royal National Life-Boat Institution's new life-boat and was entertained at dinner at Government House by Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Miles.

The Duchess, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Jane Pugh.

RSPCA gala evening

The Duke and Duchess of Somerset will host a champagne reception and buffet supper to be held at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, on June 18, to raise the £15,000 needed for the RSPCA. For tickets: £12 double and £7 single; please apply to Miss H. Thomas, RSPCA Events Executive, 43 Great Marlborough Street, London, W1.

Design Council

The Duke of Edinburgh presented the Design Council Awards for 1974 yesterday at the County Hall, Union Building, EC1. He was welcomed by the Lord Mayor of London, Viscount Caldecote, Chairman of the Design Council, Baron of Snowdon, Sir Paul Fairhurst, Director of the Design Council, and Mr Francis Sandlands.

Latest wills

Sir Julian Henry Hall, of Westminster, novelist and author, left £15,115 net (duty paid, £57,423). He left £20,000 effects to Gwen Hall Melchett, £1,000 each to the Garrick Club and the Garrick Club Committee, £500 to the Royal Society of Arts, £400 to Richards, of Cottesloe & Co, and £230 for the benefit of the staff at 440 Strand, in appreciation of their kind attention. Other estates include (net before duty paid) further details may be payable on some estates): Singley Major Stanley Norman, of Cheltenham, Surrey (duty paid, £52,882); Mrs. M. G. L. Morgan, of Callow, Mr. Frederick Walter, director (duty paid, £18,759); £159,682 Dow, Miss Mildred Murdoch, of Chelmsford, Essex (duty paid, £44,265); £115,634 Fisher, Miss Hilda of Windsor (duty paid, £57,066); £227,228 Roberts, Mr. Griffith Richard of Upper Holloway, London (duty paid, £50,783).

Mr D. J. Goldsmith and Miss S. Kirk

Engagement is announced

between John David Goldsmith (St-Alban-Rheinstieg 130, 4052 Basel), son of Dr and Mrs M. Goldsmith of 3 Birdale Avenue, Leicester, LE2 3HA, and Sylvia, only daughter of Mrs Irene Karp, and the late Mr Leon Karp, of Maximilian Str 47, Munich 22.

Mr R. H. Johnson and Miss J. R. Tweedie

Engagement is announced between Robin (Mick), son of Mr and Mrs R. H. Johnson, of San Julian, Argentina, and of Dumfries, and Julia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Tweedie, Edington, North Somerset, and Estancia Steag River, Rio Gallegos, Argentina. The marriage will take place in Patagonia in February.

Mr D. Maclehoose and Miss C. Clyne

Engagement is announced between David, son of the Rev Alex and Mrs Maclehoose, of Lockerbie Vicarage, Roxburghshire, and Christine, daughter of the late Dr Theodore Clyne and Mrs Peter Blaikburn of Greenfield House, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland.

Mr D. C. Morris and Miss P. E. Grey

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs L. Morris and Dr. D. Morris, Head, Survey, and Pauline Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. R. Grey, 18 Long Drive, Kohimarama, Auckland, New Zealand.

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Fed loans to Franklin bank now put at \$1,100m

From Frank Vogl
Washington, May 23

The Franklin National Bank was reported today to have borrowed, around \$1,100m (about £435m) from the Federal Reserve System, and Mr James Smith, the United States Comptroller of the Currency, has repeated that he believes Franklin—the 20th largest bank in the United States—is solvent.

The Franklin New York Corporation announced late this afternoon that it had requested the Securities and Exchange Commission to continue the trading suspension on its publicly quoted shares and bonds for a further 10-day period.

Discussions on Skyship financing

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Plans for an airship weighing 500 tons constructed in the shape of a flying saucer were outlined in London yesterday.

Called the Skyship, it would cost up to £15m to build, would be powered by ten Rolls-Royce Tyne turboprop engines mounted around its 700 feet diameter hull and would cruise at around 100 mph between 5,000 and 7,000ft.

Mr John West, a marine engineer, designed Skyship and a company called International Skyship Transport Ltd, has been established to oversee the commercial and operational aspects of this revolutionary craft.

Mr West said yesterday wind tunnel tests and feasibility studies had been successfully completed, while discussions over financial backing were going on with two companies.

Skyships would have as their lifting agent the inert gas helium. They have been designed mainly as bulk cargo carriers, able to lift a payload of 400 metric tons but, according to their developers, they would have important military uses.

One Skyship would be able to transport in a single lift two infantry battalions.

Italy's payments gap at record £1,305m

Rome, May 23.—Provisional figures published here show that Italy incurred a trade deficit for the first quarter of this year totalling £1,364,000m lire (£1,305m), writes John Earle.

This resulted from a 95 per cent rise in imports over the same period last year and a two-thirds rise in exports. For March alone, the trade gap was 760,000m lire.

A spokesman for the bank had no comment to make on the volume of the bank's borrowings, but admitted that "an agreement has been made to obtain funds from the Federal Reserve System".

The bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Franklin New York Corporation and the spokesman said that a revised first-quarter earnings report was likely to be published on Tuesday. It has admitted significant losses on the foreign exchange market, but the revised report is widely expected to show most substantial losses arose from domestic bond market operations and over-extented positions in the Federal funds and Eurodollar markets.

Yarrow buys Swan Hunter repair yard

By Peter Hill

Dry docks which could be used for shipbuilding, and other facilities for possible work in connexion with North Sea oil developments have been acquired by Yarrow (Shipbuilders) on the upper Clyde from the Swan Hunter Group.

Yarrow has bought the ship repair yard occupied by Barclay Curle & Co at Elderside for undisclosed sum. About 800 workers employed at the repair yard will be offered employment with Yarrow "in the most appropriate category" at the same rates of pay and conditions as those of other Yarrow workers.

Swan Hunter stated that the sale would give better prospects of job continuity to the Barclay Curle workers. The yard had faced problems because of the decrease in the number of ships trading regularly to the Clyde.

A spokesman for Yarrow said

the dry docks and considerable wharfage facilities—next to Yarrow's present yard—would be integrated into Yarrow and provide the company with fitting-out and docking capabilities suitable for its specialist shipbuilding activities.

"Also, it is possible that in the longer term one or more of the dry docks will be used for shipbuilding purposes. In addition, the company will have scope to extend its operations into other activities, including work connected with North Sea oil developments, should this be in the best interests of the company and its employees in the future," he added.

Swan Hunter made it clear yesterday that the change of ownership of the dry docks would not affect the Barclay Curle engine works at Whiteinch, a subsidiary of the Swan Hunter Group, which had a full order book for the main marine engines it manufactures.

Protest by record shops

By Patricia Tisdall

Independent record retailers are making a bitter protest against the price cut warning launched by the W. H. Smith group, which has brought some prices down by more than 20 per cent.

Retailers say WHS, whose reduced price drive was swiftly followed by Boots, are taking an unfair advantage of the Government's pressure on profits to squeeze out High Street competition.

Formal objections have been sent to Mr John Methven, the Director-General of Fair Trading by the Gramophone Record Retailers' Committee, the retailers arm of the Music Trades Association.

Mr Laurie Krieger, chairman of the committee and managing

director of Harlequin Records which, with 52 shops, is the largest specialist record dealer, said yesterday that members feared that monopolistic situations could develop in certain towns.

Record manufacturers, too, are believed to be unhappy about the cuts. Falses are believed to be taking place between at least one big supplier and the WHS group. Manufacturers are anxious to prevent the war from spreading.

After an emergency meeting the Gramophone Record Retailers' Committee has sent protest letters to manufacturers saying that the cuts could be the beginning of a monopoly where the majority of sales are controlled by a handful of big retail companies.

The hearing continues today.

The Wall Street Journal, quoting usually reliable sources, reported that Franklin's borrowings at the Fed are now around \$1,100m.

In an interview with The New York Times, Mr Smith said that after an initial investigation into Franklin's affairs "my position is the same as before—it is a solvent bank".

Mr Smith said he had asked Mr Michael Sindona, largest shareholder in the Franklin New York Corporation with an interest of about 22 per cent, to place his Franklin interests in a voting trust.

Mr Smith said Mr Sindona had agreed and that he would ask Mr David Kennedy, former Secretary of the Treasury, and a

Germany buys US Treasury bills

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, May 23

Bankers in New York suggested today that West Germany had bought \$600m (about £250m) of non-marketable Treasury Notes.

This could not be confirmed at government departments, but the purchase would be consistent with the West German Federal Bank's policies, which have made purchases on a similar scale in the past. The reports tended to boost Treasury Bill and Note prices here.

Federal Fund rates soared as it became increasingly evident that the Federal Reserve system is a large purchaser in the markets, after having greatly increased money market liquidity last week to aid the failing Franklin National Bank and to ensure that excessively tight money conditions did not endanger other banks.

Car output slips

Disputes in the motor industry are blamed as the chief cause for the dip in car output in the United Kingdom last month to below the seasonally-adjusted February and March levels. Weakness in demand at home and overseas also contributed to the fall off.

Recorded production of cars in April at 31,800—a weekly rate of 7,950—was the highest since December last year and 5 per cent more than April last year.

Commercial vehicle production in April at 31,800—a weekly rate of 7,950—was the highest since December last year and 5 per cent more than April last year.

Aluminium spurt

There was a 10 per cent increase in world aluminium output in April compared with a year earlier. Production in the non-communist countries was 901,000 tonnes against 821,000 tonnes in April last year.

Launch delayed

Unofficial industrial action by boilermakers at Swan Hunter Shipbuilders delayed the launch of the supertanker Windsor Lion yesterday.

Freights up 10 pc

Increases of 10 per cent in freight tariffs will be implemented by member lines of the South and South East African Freight Conference in August this year. The lines blame continuous cost increases for the move.

Pacific shipping links

Ocean Group of Liverpool are having talks with Swedish and Norwegian interests to establish a 30-ship joint trans-Pacific service between North America and South-East Asia.

Mersey dock strike

The port of Liverpool was halted for four hours yesterday afternoon by a lightning unofficial strike of 5,800 dockers which kept 42 vessels, including 36 ocean-going freighters, idle on both banks of the Mersey.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why UK reactors are failing to sell abroad

From Mr G. Gill

Sir, At a time when electricity prices are being debated, myself puzzling over the reasons behind the of certain service

I have just paid my quarterly bill of just over £11. V

Many high-powered attempts,

carrying full government back-

ing, have been made to sell

SGHWR abroad since the proto-

type at Winfrith operated suc-

cessfully. I remember particu-

larly Australia, Finland, South

Africa and Greece where large

teams were engaged for con-

siderable periods.

All failed, and I believe the

real reason to be because there

was no representative prototype

working at the 600MWe size

the customer wished to buy.

I also find it difficult to

believe that our technical credi-

bility remains high enough, fol-

lowing our experience in trying

to scale up the AGR, for any

small overseas utility to be

able to develop a market.

In the meantime, if

nuclear reactors are really eco-

nomic down to 100MWe sizes,

then surely the prototype at Win-

frith is a good enough model

for this size.

Fairly Engineering should be

encouraged to take all the

orders they can get at this size

as an early success might well

help to point the way in which

the nuclear industry should be

heading.

Yours faithfully,

G. GILL,

8 Saltram Road,

Farnborough,

Hampshire.

May 14.

Confusion over foreign cheques

From Mr Peter Davidson

Sir, Having incorrectly com-

plished an application for the re-

newal of my driving licence, it was

returned to me to alter.

Thoughtfully, a printed return

label was included in the envelope. It read:

2906 (This number was in

handwriting).

The Licensing Branch

Director-General's Depart-

ment,

Greater London Council,

South West Area Office,

Park House,

155-177 The Broadway,

London, SW1 1NH.

My secretary tells me that

we were this to be typed—as it must

be many thousands of times a

year—it would take 205 key im-

pressions. Is this a record?

Ever willing to experiment, I

spurred the return label and

addressed an envelope to:

Driving Licences M2906,

London, SW1 1NH.

Since I now have my licence,

we may assume my reply was

sufficiently addressed. My short-

ened version took 39 key im-

pressions—19 per cent of the

original. I saved 81 per cent of

the key impressions. Is this a

record?

Yours faithfully,

P. DAVIDSON,

Avenue General Larigues 105,

Woluwe-St-Lambert,

1200, Bruxelles.

1200, Bruxelles.

London, SW1.

As can be seen this is an

option open to the customer and

can be an important one if

further action is contemplated.

It is made and a written declara-

tion obtained usually by a notary

public or some such person that

the bill has been duly presented

Base Rate change

Barclays Bank International Limited announces that with effect from 23rd May 1974 its Base Rate was decreased from 12½% to 12% per annum.

The basic interest rate for deposits will remain at 9½% per annum.



The British Investment Trust

Highlights from the Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st March 1974.

Year to 31st March	Total Assets £	Total Revenue £	Earnings %	Dividend %	Asset Value * per Ord. Share
1967	56,400,000	2,097,000	12.30	12	89p
1968	82,300,000	2,442,000	12.66	12½	128p
1969	106,800,000	2,695,000	13.06	13	168p
1970	96,300,000	3,145,000	13.76	13½	144½p
1971	96,800,000	3,411,000	15.13	14½	146p
1972	134,200,000	3,568,000	15.97	15%	206½p
1973	134,000,000	3,923,000	16.02	16%	202p
			(net)	(net)	
1974	105,600,000	4,793,000	14.79	12½ + 1½	148½p

* Before conversion of Convertible Debenture Stocks

REVENUE

Total Revenue includes £220,000 of U.K. dividends deferred from the previous year as well as unusually large amounts of short term deposit interest.

Earnings and Dividends this year are declared net. Earnings of 14.79% net compare with an approximate equivalent net figure of 11.2% for last year.

Dividends of 12½% net have been declared for the year compared with the approximate equivalent of 11½% net last year. In addition a special non-recurring dividend of 1½% net has been declared. As a result the dividend rate has more than doubled over the past ten years.

CAPITAL

The fall in U.K. markets during the year accounts for by far the largest part of the reduction in Total Assets. Properties have shown only a modest fall in value by comparison.

Oil and oil services companies now make up more than 12% of the portfolio and include major positions in leading North Sea participants such as Halliburton and Burmah Oil.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from The Secretary,
The British Investment Trust Limited, 46 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3BR.

INTERIM STATEMENT

LONRHO

HALF-YEARLY RESULTS

The unaudited results of the Lonrho Group of companies in respect of the six months ended 31st March, 1974 are as follows:-

	Six months ended 31st March, 1974 £ million	Year ended 30th Sept., 1973 £ million
Turnover	144.3	110.4
Profit before Taxation:		235.95
Group	12.7	8.2
Associates	3.3	1.4
	16.0	9.6
Taxation	8.2	5.2
Profits after Taxation	7.8	4.4
Minority Interests	3.0	1.2
Profit attributable to Lonrho shareholders (before extraordinary items)	4.8	3.2
		11.19

Cheapside House,
London, EC2V 6BL

FINANCIAL NEWS

Housing slump brings prospect of 'appalling' year for London Brick

By David Mott

The full implications of the slump in housebuilding on the industry's major suppliers were brought into sharp focus yesterday by Sir Ronald Stewart, chairman of London Brick Company, when he spoke to shareholders at the annual meeting.

The company faces an "extremely poor" first half to be followed by a "most disappointing" year, Sir Ronald said. Brick deliveries were substantially down on last year; production had to be cut (partly by phasing out old plant); and unless there was a marked improvement in housebuilding over the next few weeks more substantial

and damaging cuts in production appeared inevitable.

He told shareholders that the company had never known a position quite as bad as this. The first quarter had shown a fall of 46 per cent in housing starts and 1974 was likely to be an appalling year for housing. If present estimates proved correct only 245,000 houses would be started in 1974, down on last year and 105,000 less than in 1972.

In addition to all this cuts in government expenditure on other public sector work were beginning to bite, and would do so increasingly, while Government exhortation and money to local authorities was unlikely to bring a substantial improvement

in the start of schemes this year. This left commercial and industrial building as the only sector where conditions were reasonably buoyant.

The financial implication for the company's margins and cash flow were serious and price control was making the position even more difficult. Following the approval of a 3 per cent price rise in February a further application is to be made.

Sir Ronald said even a small improvement in housebuilding would greatly assist the company and he saw the immediate task as weathering the present storm. Last year pre-tax profits grew from £7.6m to £8.9m. The shares fell by 41p yesterday to close at 40p.

have beaten the £1.94m achieved after six months. In the event, £1.8m was brought in, giving the group a record outturn of £3.8m against £3.4m. Turnover went ahead from £20.4m to £22.9m. The dividend went from 7p to 9.1p as forecast.

Record interim profit from Stenhouse

Though showing a drop from £3.91m to £3.03m in pre-tax profit for the opening half, Associated Engineering has performed much better than expected two months ago when it forecast the outturn at some £2.25m. Turnover for the period rose 16 per cent to £77.9m. Net profit suggest from £2.15m to £1.4m and the "attributable" from £1.93m to £1.2m. The interim dividend is 13½p against 13½p.

Exports in the latest half increased 28 per cent and sales of overseas companies at the same rate. Combined, they represent some 39 per cent of total turnover.

As expected, profits were affected by the power strike and heavy costs incurred in minimizing the effects of restrictions, while interest payments rose from £1.39m to £1.99m. However, current indications are that second-half profits should match the £4.75m for the corresponding period. If this is the case, the total dividend will be maintained.

J. & J. Dyson slips

On turnover up 10 per cent to £8.56m for the six months to September 30, J. & J. Dyson, makers of refractory materials, turns a taxable profit down from £506,000 to £371,000, accompanied by a forecast of full-time earnings slightly above £1m compared with £1.41m. Two damaging influences were the oil price increases and the miners' strike. On the brighter side, order books are full for domestic customers and for export. As known, the interim dividend is maintained at 1.87p.

£1.7m by Hay's Wharf

With the smoke from the abortive bid from St Martins Property Corporation still lingering, the board of Proprietors of Hay's Wharf has taken stock of the group's trading progress and found that interim taxable profits are slightly higher than budgeted levels.

The pre-tax is up from £1.49m to a record £1.73m, while the attributable stands at £1.17m, against £933,000. The gross interim dividend rises from 1.83p to 1.93p. The capital development time-table is being adhered to; the only hitch seems to be at the redevelopment in Tooley Street, where publication of the planning brief has been delayed.

Armitage Shanks

Had it not been for the £315,000 reduction in second-half profits caused by the national emergency, profits of the Armitage Shanks Group for the period would, as predicted, have beaten the £1.94m achieved after six months. In the event, £1.8m was brought in, giving the group a record outturn of £3.8m against £3.4m. Turnover went ahead from £20.4m to £22.9m. The dividend went from 7p to 9.1p as forecast.

Prichard Services

Although the overseas expansion of the Prichard Services Group is still in its infancy, it has helped the group to withstand difficult trading conditions and delivered profits from United Kingdom building cleaning. Following the continuing rise in profits, from £563,000 to £626,000, the group has achieved a 10 per cent increase to a record £1.48m for 1973.

Turnover is up from £18.6m to £26.8m, and earnings a share are down from 3.33p to 2.76p after adjusting for scrip.

Brunning foiled

The Brunning Group of advertising agents hoped to sustain profits for 1973-74 at around last year's £729,000. In the event, after an 8.7 per cent rise at mid-term the second half succumbed to the economic crisis, which pushed profits for the half down by 16.3 per cent to £500,000 and the year's figures by 5.6 per cent to £688,000.

This advertisement appears as a matter of record only.

New Issue

\$43,000,000

IAC LIMITED

9 1/4% Secured Notes Series "40"

Dated May 15, 1974

To Mature May 15, 1994

Price: 100 United States Funds

The sale of these Notes has been arranged privately by the undersigned.

Greenshields & Co Inc

Huge interim rise at Associated Fisheries

By Our Financial Staff

Reporting a huge half-year increase in pre-tax profits from £1.75m to £4.99m for the period ended March 31, Mr. Paul Tapscott chairman of Associated Fisheries, says that all group divisions contributed to this result.

Sales rose from £30.7m to £37.8m reflecting buoyant market conditions in the market for fish.

However, Mr. Tapscott anticipates some slowing down of the growth rate over the rest of the year which will bear the main burden of what he terms "immense inflation of costs", including an increased fuel oil cost of £1.5m.

Associated Fisheries, with a fleet of 148 trawlers, is the United Kingdom's largest trawling group. Mr. Tapscott emphasized the importance of

government action on building grants, which remained suspended "adequate explanation".

"If the British fishery is to be kept at an size and competitive with nations this is a matter of national importance."

CRODA INTERNATIONAL

In spite of energy or figures for first quarter good and Mr. F. Wood say he will be most difficult if group does not have other successful year, there is no guarantee rate will continue to go up to 1974 outcome.

FRANK GATES

Taxable profits up to £514,000 last year, share were 15p (16.5p).

home char

Cline Road, New Southgate, London N11 2NA

Extracts from the Annual Report for 1973, by the Chairman Mr. Gerald Fogel, J.P.

Group Turnover up 28% to £5,640,713
Pretax Profits up 37% to £482,083
Equivalent Gross Dividend 37%
(28% last year)

The results are extremely gratifying considering an abnormally uneven pattern of trading during 1973. Sales were buoyant for the first quarter, but following introduction of VAT it was not until the last quarter sales returned to their normal trading pattern.

Larger units were opened, though trading in some deflated, and smaller and less profitable units were sold profit. Resultant net increase of selling area was approximately 48,000 sq. ft.

The substantially higher stock reflected in Accounts helped us take maximum advantage of increased demand in the first quarter of 1974, for sales were well up last year despite the State of Emergency.

With the continued rise in labour costs, more people are carrying out their own home improvements. Y Board are actively seeking suitable new units from which to retail the ever-increasing range of D.I.Y. products.

TEXAS

Homecare Centres

ESO

The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal is as follows:

Balances under £10,000. 9 1/2% per annum

Balances of £10,000 and over 10 1/2% per annum



Rate Changes

National Westminster Bank announces that for balances in its books from and including Thursday 23rd May, 1974, its Base Rate for lending is reduced from 12½% to 12% per annum and its Deposit Rate for balances of £10,000 or more is reduced from 11% to 10½% per annum. All other Rates, including its 7-day Deposit Rate for balances below £10,000 remains unchanged.

Erith & COMPANY LIMITED BUILDERS' MERCHANTS

Annual General Meeting 23rd May, 1974 he Chairman, Mr. E. J. Erith reported:

	1971	1972	1973
up Sales	£000's	7,550	8,863
up Profit	£000's	445	765
Dividend (Gross)	pence	5.00	5.25
per Share unit*	5.5125		

view of 1973. Trading Profit was again at a record level and our future prospects were enhanced by the purchase of two additional builders' merchants businesses. There has been considerable capital expenditure on premises which contributed to the increase in profitable ex-store trade. These achievements reflect great credit on the staff in often difficult conditions prevailing in the building industry.

For 1974. Sales for the first four months are well beyond our expectations, considering the economic climate and the effects of shortages caused by the three-day week. This trend continues and at present there is no indication that it will not, there should be a satisfactory increase in trading Profit in 1974. The Parent Company and Subsidiaries, including the new acquisition, are all contributing to this result. Subject to unforeseen circumstances the Dividend will be increased up to Statutory limitations.

Erith & Co. Ltd., Builders Merchants
Head Office: 530 High Road, Leytonstone
London E11 3EQ.

The Royal Bank of Scotland INTEREST RATES

The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited announces that with effect from 24th May 1974 its base rate for lending is being reduced from 12½ per cent per annum to 12 per cent per annum. The maximum rate of interest allowed on deposits lodged for a minimum period of seven days or subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal at the London Offices of the Bank will continue at 9½ per cent per annum for balances under £10,000 and is being reduced from 11 per cent per annum to 10½ per cent per annum on balances of £10,000 and over.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited, Head Office, PO Box 31,
42 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YE.

THE SOLVAY GROUP

Principal information extracted from the Annual Report for the year 1973

1. COMPARISON OF EXTERNAL SALES, CASH FLOWS AND RESULTS

1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 million B. Fr.

—Consolidated external sales 37,746 42,024 45,226 51,994 63,795
—Cash flow 6,817 6,227 6,344 7,183 9,417
—Depreciation 3,720 4,153 4,396 4,931 6,228
—Consolidated net profit 3,097 2,074 1,948 2,223 3,188
applicable to Solvay & Cie 2,807 1,866 1,671 1,666 2,610

In 1973, the Group's activity, under the influence of the favourable economic situation, was characterized by the full utilization of productive capacities and by a further trend of selling prices, accentuated, as a matter of fact, by increasing inflation. This was reflected in sales to external customers, which rose by 23%, and in the cash flow, which increased by 31%. The latter comprised depreciation up 26% and the consolidated net profit, up 42%. This year, we were B. Fr. 69 million in 1972. Without exceptional profits, instead of exceptional charges, that of 1970-1972.

The share in the net profit applicable to Solvay & Cie is substantially on the increase, as a result of a more considerable rise in the profits of the parent company and of subsidiaries where the Group's shareholding is 100%.

1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 million B. Fr.

Capital expenditure 5,554 8,210 10,201 7,531 6,406
Research expenditure 989 1,101 1,231 1,402 1,633
Personnel expenditure 10,148 11,466 12,925 14,938 17,366 thousand B. Fr.

Sales per person employed 907 979 1,035 1,163 1,441

Net profit per fully paid-up share 421 280 240 240 376

Net dividend per fully paid-up share 145 155 155 160 170

Persons employed at December 31 41,611 42,914 43,716 44,701 44,274

3. DISTRIBUTION OF EXTERNAL SALES

By main product groups:
—Soda-ash and caustic soda 21.5
—Salts, fertilizers, sodium and calcium derivatives 11.5
—Chlorine and derivatives 9.5
—Peroxogen chemicals 6
—Plastics—resins and compounds 23
—Plastics—processing 16
—Sundries (including products of the pharmaceutical industry) 12.5

4. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The total research expenditure of the Group amounted to B. Fr. 1,633 million against B. Fr. 1,402 million in 1972, up 16.5%. The research staff is about 2,000, split between the Central Laboratory and the research centres in the Group's factories.

5. SOLVAY & CIE SOCIETE ANONYME

The net profit for the year amounts to B. Fr. 1,542 million, a 16% rise compared with 1972. This increase is essentially due to the industrial activity of the company.

The Board of Directors will propose to the General Meeting on 10th June, 1974 to distribute a dividend of B. Fr. 170 per fully paid-up share i.e. B. Fr. 10 more than for the previous year, and to appropriate the available profit, which amounts to B. Fr. 1,613,520,830, as follows:

Net dividend of B. Fr. 170 per A and B share 1,087,041,200
Net dividend of B. Fr. 68 per C share 94,254,120
Withholding tax 295,323,630
Investment reserve (Spain) 95,684,820
Carried forward to next account 41,226,560

B. Fr. 1,613,520,830
Copies of the English version of the Company's Annual Report in which the detailed accounts for 1973 are included, are available on request from Solvay & Cie, Societe Anonyme, Secretariat Général, rue du Prince Albert 33, B 1050—Brussels (Belgium).

FINANCIAL NEWS

Lesney is kept at full stretch

Though Lesney Products achieved record sales of £24m last year, it failed by a wide margin to meet orders, Mr Paul Tapscott, chairman, writes.

This was caused by shortages of labour and production facilities as well as by external strikes. Long-term plans will require an additional major production complex and the method of financing this is being studied. But Mr Tapscott asks how long shareholders will accept an "inadequate" return because of dividend restraint.

Lesney's return on capital was 20 per cent last year, but its property throughout the world is being revalued and (because of the higher depreciation) the return on capital will be "depressed substantially".

Products have been "repriiced" to cover steep increases in material costs. Orders are at a record, every plant should be fully employed throughout this year, and "further progress" should be achieved in results.

Turner & Newall

The three day week did not quite take the toll of Turner & Newall's profits that was feared. The first three months show a

Issues & Loans

Success for York Water preferred

Following the poor response to the most recent water company issues, the £10 per cent offering of redeemable preference stock 1979 by York Waterworks Co. has gone away with considerable success.

Applications were made for £27m of stock, and, against a minimum tender price of £100 per cent, the lowest price to obtain a partial allotment was £107.50.

The average price obtained was £103.25. Brokers to the issue were Seymour, Pierce and dealings will start today.

Eurobond prices midday indicators

S. STRAIGHTS	Bd	Other	Hongkong Land Cam 7/7/1974	1/7/74	1/7/74
American Motors 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT Skipton 1976	1/2	1/2
Standard Oil 1975	1/2	1/2	FTT Morley 1976	1/2	1/2
Standard Oil 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT Northgate 1976	1/2	1/2
Standard Oil 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT Pilkington 1976	1/2	1/2
Terracotta 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1976	1/2	1/2
Terracotta 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1977	1/2	1/2
Transocean 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1978	1/2	1/2
Transocean 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1979	1/2	1/2
U.D.T. 1974	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1980	1/2	1/2
U.D.T. 1975	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1981	1/2	1/2
U.D.T. 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1982	1/2	1/2
U.D.T. 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1983	1/2	1/2
Volvo 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1984	1/2	1/2
Volvo 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1985	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1976	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1986	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1977	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1987	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1978	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1988	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1979	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1989	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1980	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1990	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1981	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1991	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1982	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1992	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1983	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1993	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1984	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1994	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1985	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1995	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1986	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1996	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1987	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1997	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1988	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1998	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1989	1/2	1/2	FTT British 1999	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1990	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2000	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1991	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2001	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1992	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2002	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1993	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2003	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1994	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2004	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1995	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2005	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1996	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2006	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1997	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2007	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1998	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2008	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 1999	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2009	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2000	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2010	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2001	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2011	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2002	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2012	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2003	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2013	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2004	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2014	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2005	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2015	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2006	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2016	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2007	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2017	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2008	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2018	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2009	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2019	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2010	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2020	1/2	1/2
W.G. Grace & Co. 2011	1/2	1/2	FTT British 2021	1/2	1/2
W.G.					

FINANCIAL NEWS

The last day of the trading account saw an attempted rally by equities thwarted by a fresh bout of nerves. Publication of the Labour Party's manifesto reawakened fears of a general election this summer and liquidity fears continued to unsettle many sectors.

Industrials, which had opened in good spirits on the news of further cuts in base rates by the lending banks, turned sour at midday, and showed no satisfaction with higher profit figures from Beecham Group and Courtaulds. Turnover remained thin. The FT index closed a net 4.3 off at 388.2, having touched 294.9 in the first hour. The Times index shed a further 1.40 to 144.70.

The possibility of further bankruptcies among secondary building, property and house building companies or stockbroking firms continued to over-

Stock markets

Short-lived rally among equities

hang the market. Bearish reports from the animal meeting of London Stock took 4.1p off the shares at 49p. Small losses were suffered by Taylor Woodrow (200p), AP Cement (128p), English China Clay (69p) and Cement Roadstone (92p).

A substantial increase in profits at Courtaulds was no surprise for the market, and the shares, standing at 108p ahead of the news, closed at the same level, unchanged on the day's trade. Beecham's figures, while less spectacular, left the shares 24p off at 215p.

Other major stocks took little notice of these two major trad-

ing statements. ICI (330p) shed 2p and Unilever (795p) some 5p, both in line with market trend.

Engineering shares traced a somewhat irregular pattern, after abandoning an early attempt to go forward. BLMC (113p) returned to the low point after some cautious marking-down operations by the jobbers who found a few small sellers.

Ominous reports that the board was "reassessing the group's travel operations lowered Court Line by 2p to 24p. Whessoe (76p) took a fresh knock after bearish review of

prospects for North Sea services companies.

Robertson Foods put on 1p to 60p after disclosing trading results slightly above market expectations. But profits news did little to help either Ovaltine (175p) or Associated Fisheries (78p) or Associated Engineering (391p).

A brave start by the banks, following base rate cuts from Barclays and National Westminster, soon turned to dust. Secondary banks steadied, and properties remained quiet. English Property (48p) eased on lower earnings news. Peureula Investments slipped to 24p on the withdrawal of the bid. A lower bullion price brought

falls in gold shares. Oils turned dull in thin trade.

Gilts had an uneven day, but the undertones remained firm. At the opening the market received encouragement from the reduction in base rates, but enthusiasm seemed to die down as the session progressed.

"Shorts" opened 1 point higher. There was some buying and prices looked like advancing further. In mid-morning the Government brokered the price of the short-dated "tap" stock Treasury 114 per cent 1977, and this was sufficient to keep the market up for the rest of the day. At the close some stocks showed rises of 7/16 point.

"Longs" opened up to 1 point higher, but, after an active first hour, lost first an 1 point and then another 1 point to close at overnight levels.



The British Bank of the Middle East

in the United Arab Emirates

We are pleased to announce the opening of our branch in

AL AIN
in the Emirate of
ABU DHABI

P.O. Box No. 1147
Telegrams: Bactria - Telex AH380
Telephone: 41812

The British Bank of the Middle East

20 Abchurch Lane - London EC4N 7AY

A member of The Hongkong Bank Group

British Rollmakers

Rollmakers, manufacturers and distributors of engineers' tools

Addressing the Annual General Meeting on 22nd May the Chairman, Mr. D. F. Dodd, made the following points:

- Management accounts for the first quarter of 1974 show a small surplus. Considering the effects of the three-day week this is an encouraging result.
- Group order position very satisfactory. Roll Division orders twice the value of this time last year.
- Our only problems are national ones—shortages of raw material and skilled labour, and escalating prices.

EE In the medium and long term I am very optimistic for we have fine plants, first class management and employees and the resources to back them up. **SS**

Results at a Glance		1973	1972
Turnover	£13,092,000	£11,532,000	
Profit before taxation	1,525,000	1,362,000	
Net profit	733,000	830,000	
Earnings per share	3.26p	3.66p	
Dividend per share	13.21%	12.6%	

Copies of the full report and Chairman's Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, The British Rollmakers Corporation Ltd., Weston Road, Cisne, Cheshire, CW1 1DS.

Latest dividends

Company	Year	Per cent	Year	Per cent
Armitage Shanks (25p) Fin	5.17	17.7	9.17	2.0
Assoc Eng (25p) Int	1.37	—	5.1	—
Assoc Fisheries (25p) Int	2.25*	—	—	5.0
Barr & W. Arnold (25p) Fin	4.13	3.98*	4.13	4.35
Barts' Butchers (25p) S Int	1.62	5.7	4.13	5.35
Bell & Clegg (25p) Fin	3.45	—	6.39	—
Brit Inds & Gen (25p) Int	1.55	1.5	—	3.75
J. Brockhouse (25p) Int	6.57	6.0	31.7	—
Courtaulds (25p) Fin	5.13	5.13	35.7	7.57
English Prop (50p) Fin	1.05	0.94	—	3.31
Exco (25p) Fin	3.87	26.7	5.95	5.57
Fife Rubber (25p) Int	2.74*	—	5.6	—
Hambros Inv (35p) Fin	3.24	5.6	5.9	4.9
Hay's Wharf (f1) Int	1.53*	—	—	3.67
Intl Paint (51) Fin	7.85	7.8	11.02	10.5
Leeds Dyers (25p) Int	0.21	0.87	1.7	—
Metro Tst (25p) Int	1.89	1.25	—	4.3
National Assns (\$1) Int	6.54	6.09	37.6	15.35
Ozalid (25p) Fin	6.54	4.7	—	6.3
Fork Farms (10p) Fin	7.0	7.0	9.45	9.0
Robertson Foods (25p) Fin	4.23	4.01	6.7	5.51
Scots Inv (25p) Int	0.67	0.65	22.7	—
Spooner Inds (25p) Int	0.5	0.81	19.7	3.97
Sumner Clothes (20p) Fin	2.72	2.5	12.7	4.52
Thames Inds (25p) Fin	1.04	1.0	5.7	5.22
Witneygold (25p) Fin	1.51	2.05*	4.01	3.95

* Adjusted for scrip. † As forecast. \$ Cents. * Forecast. ** To date.

falls in gold shares. Oils turned dull in thin trade.

Gilts had an uneven day, but the undertones remained firm. At the opening the market received encouragement from the reduction in base rates, but enthusiasm seemed to die down as the session progressed.

"Shorts" opened 1 point higher. There was some buying and prices looked like advancing further. In mid-morning the Government brokered the price of the short-dated "tap" stock Treasury 114 per cent 1977, and this was sufficient to keep the market up for the rest of the day. At the close some stocks showed rises of 7/16 point.

"Longs" opened up to 1 point higher, but, after an active first hour, lost first an 1 point and then another 1 point to close at overnight levels.

Bids & deals

Stern shies away from Peureula takeover

Wistar Securities, parent company of the Stern property empire, have ended discussions with Peureula Investments.

In April, through a subsidiary, Camara Investments, Wistar bought a near 50 per cent stake in Peureula from Cityland Hotels, controlled by Mr. D. R. Kirch, who held more than 66 per cent of Peureula equity.

Mr Kirch is duly being called on to repurchase the shares (43.66) at cost as the deal is not going through. He will then own or control 9.625m shares (66.24 per cent) in Peureula.

At the meeting the Chairman said that having regard to the possibility of a less than satisfactory rate of growth in the U.K. economy, the Group was seeking further outlets for its products and had already achieved a measure of success in this field.

EDINBURGH INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

Profits substantially increased

Extracts from the circulated Statement of the Chairman, J. G. Bliley, for the 53 weeks ended 3rd November 1973.

At the commencement of the financial year under review were in a period of economic expansion and most companies in the Group enjoyed an increase of turnover, although on occasions by the availability of raw materials and contracts which became more acute towards the end of the year.

The substantial efforts of employees during the difficult period from December to the end of February resulted in an increase of 87% of the levels budgeted before the energy crisis.

PROSPECTS. The products of most companies in the Group are such that the profits are unlikely to be affected by restrictions of domestic consumer resistance, although immune to a downturn in general U.K. manufacturing.

Therefore if one takes the view that industrial activity remains at current levels for the remainder of 1974, the company is well placed to produce a satisfactory profit current financial year.

At the meeting the Chairman said that having regard to the possibility of a less than satisfactory rate of growth in the U.K. economy, the Group was seeking further outlets for its products and had already achieved a measure of success in this field.

	1973	1972
Turnover	£2,000	£700
Profit before tax	5,827	3,14
Profit after tax	3,688	21
Dividends	31	17
Earnings per 12.5p share	3.8p	3.5

Group interests cover the following fields:

Woodworking • Electronics

Plastics • Engineering • Small Tools

Midland Bank Base Rate

Midland Bank announces that with effect from May 24th, 1974 its Base Rate will be 12%, and that its Deposit Rate on amounts lodged subject to 7 days notice of withdrawal will be as under:

Balances under £10,000 will earn 9 1/2% (Rate unchanged); Balances of £10,000 and over will earn 10%.

Savings Accounts will earn 7 1/2% on the first £250,

and 9 1/2% thereafter (Rates unchanged). Also with effect from May 24th, 1974 the rate charged on new Personal Loans will be reduced to 9%.

R. & A. G. CROSSLAND LIMITED

(Manufacturers of Lighting Equipment, Metal Pressings, Cal Trunking and Water Fittings)

Continued Progress - Record Order Book

The 25th Annual General Meeting was held in Birkenhead on May 23rd, Mr. P. W. Reynolds (the Chairman) presiding. The following is an extract from his circumspect statement:

The profit of the Group, before taxation, amounts to £241,012 compared with a profit of £301,142 for 1972. Including the associated tax credits, the total dividend for the year is 1.35p per share compared with 1.35p per share for the previous year.

Although 1973 was a difficult year due to some managements increased their turnover and profits.

R. & A. G. Crossland (Walsall) Ltd. was successful in obtaining business from new customers and product range which has considerable potential.

TRIUMPH-A. BECKMAN LTD. Triumph Investment Trust has disposed of its entire holding (1,055,000 shares) of 14 per cent of equity of A. Beckman by a placing through market.

BEA GROUP The very good March and April sales and profits for first four months ran ahead of same period last year and Mr. F. Pearson says that it now seems possible that 1974 profits will surpass 1973's.

SUMERIE CLOTHES Last month turnover was £3.88m (£3.33m) and taxable profit at pre-tax £13,000 (£266,000). Three-weeks' sales hit record levels.

AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS First quarter shows a small profit. Board views short and medium term future with cautious optimism.

Our new building at Walsall is now in the process of completion and we expect to transfer most of our moulding equipment into it by the middle of 1974.

As for the current year, we traded profitably with co-operation of our employees during the three-day strike and we have record order books; with our improved liquidity position I feel that, despite the present economic climate, we can look forward to another record year.

Excellent prospects for Mr. James R. Hendry, M.B.E., T.D., Chairman, in his Annual Statement of Shareholders reports:-

* Demand from all sections of industry continues at a high level.

* The Offshore Division of the Company has secured large contracts for rig drilling, pipe-laying barges.

* The new factory at Edmonton, Alberta, started production in April 1974 planned.

* Extensive plant and machinery investment at Costbridge is proceeding.

* Orders on hand at record level as Board extremely optimistic about current year.

Specialist manufacturers of high tensile Steel Wire Ropes for all industrial, shipping, fishing and offshore applications.</

City Offices

Hampton & Sons

01-236 7831

London and Regional Market Prices

Weak close to the account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin Today Dealings End June 7 § Contango Day, June 10 Settlement Day, June 18
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



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